Daily Report

East Europe

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Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Pays Visit

AU0410165190 Tirana ATA in English 0817 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 2 (ATA)—The deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Italian Republic, Senator Ivo Butini, arrived on an official visit to our country today, morning.

At the airport he was welcomed by the deputy minister of foreign affairs of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Sokrat Plaka and other functionaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Present was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic in Tirana, Giorgio de Andreis.

Received by Carcani

AU0410165290 Tirana ATA in English 0820 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 2 (ATA)—On October 2, Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, received the Italian deputy foreign minister, Ivo Butini and exchanged opinions with him on questions of mutual concern.

Speaking of the Albanian-Italian relations, Comrade Adil Carcani pointed to the desire of the Albanian Government for the further development of relations of friendship and cooperation with Italy and voiced his conviction that they will forge ahead with the readiness of the two countries, by intensifying the political contacts, the economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, etc. to the benefit of our two peoples, peace and security in the region.

He said that Albania has appreciated the cooperation in the Adriatic as an important initiative contributing to the interests of the countries and peoples of the zone, the strengthening of friendship, confidence and good neighbourliness in the region. The problems of ecology and pollution of the Adriatic and the Mediterranean, he said, are of special importance for the man's health and the protection of sea, they are closely linked with the all-sided cooperation in the Mediterranean and Europe.

Comrade Adil Carcani dwelt on some aspects of the current international political developments, particularly on the positive processes of cooperation and security in Europe and voiced Albania's desire to participate in the process of CSCE with full rights and to strengthen the Balkan cooperation to the benefit of the peoples of our peninsula.

[Words indistinct]. He briefed the Italian deputy minister on the process of the further democratisation of life in the political, economic and social fields, as a permanent and irreversible process.

The foreign deputy minister, Senator Butini, thanked for the warm reception and expressed the sentiments of friendship of the Italian people for the Albanian people and the desire for the further development of the relations between our two countries. Likewise, he spoke on the cooperation between Albania and Italy in the framework of the Adriatic initiative and of the operating plan for the Mediterranean, for the preservation and protection of the maritime environment in the Adriatic and the Mediterranean. Butini assessed the measures adopted for the further deepening of the process of all-round democratisation in Albania. Attending the reception, which proceeded in friendly atmosphere was also the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Sokrat Plaka. Present was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic in Tirana, Giorgio de Andreis.

Meets With Plaka, Korbeci

AU0410165390 Tirana ATA in English 0825 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 2 (ATA)—Official talks were conducted today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania between the foreign deputy minister of the PSR of Albania, Sokrat Plaka, and the foreign deputy minister of the Italian Republic, Senator Ivo Butini.

During the talks, both parties exchanged opinions on the Adriatic initiative and dwelt particularly on the promotion of cooperation on ecological problems, the preservation and protection of the environment of the Adriatic Sea.

They pointed out that the necessity of cooperation between the states of this region and concrete possibilities existing in this direction in the fields of transport, trade, fishing, tourism etc. Likewise, they talked on the coordination of efforts by both parties in the framework of the Barcelona Convention for the preservation and protection of the Mediterranean Sea, of which both countries are members.

The two deputy ministers exchanged opinions also on the promotion of the relations between Albania and Italy, as well as on their further promotion in mutually beneficial fields.

On this occasion they spoke also on problems of the foreign policy, on stands towards international problems of mutual benefit.

The talks were also attended by Giorgio de Andreis, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic in Tirana.

On October 2 too, Shane Korbeci, minister of foreign trade, received the deputy foreign minister of Italy, Senator Ivo Butini, with whom he had a warm talk. On this occasion views were exchanged on the development of economic cooperation between the two countries in the context of implementing the agreement on economic, industrial and technical cooperation. They appreciated

the development of trade exchanges between the two countries and voiced the desire to augment their volume.

Alia Sends Message to FRG's Von Weizsaecker

AU0410170790 Tirana ATA in English 0820 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 4 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, sent the following message of greetings to the president of the Federal Republic of Germany, Richard von Weizsaecker:

"On occasion of the unification of Germany, the realization of the legitimate aspiration of the German people, on behalf of the Albanian people and in my name, I convey to you the best greetings for the happiness and prosperity of the friendly German people.

I voice my conviction that the relations between Albania and Germany will be preserved and develop still more with the united state, in the interest of our two peoples, peace and cooperation in Europe."

Carcani Sends Congratulatory Message to Lukanov

AU0210203690 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Comrade Adil Carcani, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, has sent the following greetings telegram to Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

On the occasion of your appointment to the post of chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, I send you greetings and best wishes for your success in this highly responsible office. I express the confidence that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will assume new development in the future in the interests of our two peoples and of peace, security, and cooperation in the Balkans and Europe.

Malile Hosts Dinner for Balkan Official at UN

AU0410170990 Tirana ATA in English 0920 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Tirana, October 4 (ATA)—Reis Malile, minister of foreign affairs of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, gave a working dinner at the seat of the Albanian mission in the UNO [United Nations Organization] for the ministers of the foreign affairs of the Balkan states, who are taking part in the proceedings of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly on October 3, 1990.

Present in the dinner were the minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, Lyuben Gotsev; of Greece, Andonios Samaras; of Romania, Adrian Nastase; of Turkey, Prof. Dr. Ali Bozer; and Yugoslavia, Budimir Loncar. Present were also the permanent representatives of the Balkan states at the United Nations.

During the dinner, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, the ministers evaluated positively the hitherto development of the Balkan cooperation and voiced their readiness to carry it ahead. They exchanged opinions with regard to preparations for the meeting of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Balkan states to be held in Tirana on October 24-25, 1990.

Leaders Welcome Alia on Return From New York

AU0410205790

[Editorial Report] Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian at 1900 GMT on 4 October carries a five-minute correspondent's report from Rinas Airport on the return from New York of Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

The report states that Alia was met at the airport by Adil Carcani, Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Cami, Hajredin Celiku, Hekuran Isai, Kico Mustaqi, Lenka Cuko, Muho Asllani, Pali Miska, Vangjel Cerrava, Xhelil Gjoni, Albanian Workers Party [AWP] Central Committee Politburo members; Llambi Gegprifti, Niko Gjyzari, Pirro Kondi, Xhemal Dymylja, Abdyl Backa, AWP Central Committee Politburo candidate members; Nexhmije Hoxha, chairman of the Democratic Front; and other leaders and officials.

Propaganda Urged Against 'Slanders, Rumors'

AU0510084890 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 28 Sep 90 p 2

[Article by Pirro Kondi, Albanian Workers Party (AWP) Central Committee Politburo candidate member: "For a More Active and Militant Attitude in the Party's Propaganda"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] As Comrade Ramiz Alia predicted, the ideological, political, and economic pressures of enemies of our country will increase and become more savage. We feel this every day. However, have we properly prepared and worked on all the working masses so that they can smell them out and confront them without wavering even to the slightest degree? It must be admitted that we have not always carried out this work well, everywhere, with all layers of society, and in every respect. Meanwhile, as long as we have no few cases of degeneration among various kinds of people, and there are people who swallow and even spread the multifarious slanders and rumors which circulate, it shows that the party committees in regions and districts have not ensured swift, accurate, and well-argued information, and have not measured up to the importance of the task of creating public opinion with authentic facts, but have left leeway for bad elements to do their slanderous work. There is no doubt that the slogans and incitements to

hostile activity were cooked up in a certain kitchen, because they were carried by foreign news agencies.

However, how can our people swallow a malevolent slander such as "Hundreds of people were killed in the rush on the embassies in the first days of July, and were buried on Mali me Gropa?" We were all there and heard no shots; furthermore, who is missing anyone at home, besides those people who abandoned the homeland like brigands? There were considerable numbers of people who believed the stories that it was unemployed people and those in a severe economic plight who entered the embassies and abandoned the country. The truth, however, is that fewer that 10 percent of them were unemployed. Furthermore, most of these had been offered jobs, but had not wished to go to the places appointed for them; they sought easier but dishonest ways of making a living through theft, gambling, and so forth. It must be said that those who wavered or were taken in by the slogans of today's "fifth column" were our people. We, therefore, hold to blame our failures in persuasive and explanatory work, our lack of initiative and self-motivation, and our formalism and delay in communicating with the masses. [passage omitted]

The party teaches us that problems must be solved in the place where they arise. This is all the more true today, when the enemy does not come out with theoretical formulations, as the revisionists once did when they sought first of all to clash with the leadership and then to wage a struggle with the entire party and people. It is different today. The enemy is trying to sow degeneration among the base, among particular people of various kinds. He is trying to sow discontent, to exaggerate difficulties, and to sully reality. It is precisely for this reason that now more than ever there is a need for more wide-awake work, initiative, and self-motivation in every basic unit where problems or concerns arise.

Our difficulties are not small. The party has always said this. Some people even make comparisons with countries which embarked on the road of industrial development centuries ago. We ask, however, not for propaganda effect but for the sake of the truth. Which regime in which country of the world has accomplished in less than half-a-century what the power of the people and socialism have achieved in our country? We were in the Middle Ages and we are now advancing with sure steps toward an ever happier life for the entire population. [passage omitted]

There are people, however, who want things to change in a flash, overnight. The important thing is that we should keep moving, even though we have major difficulties. Maintaining the level we have reached has been a major achievement in itself—especially this year with the exceptional drought. There are other people who, without calculating production levels, labor productivity, costs, etc., demand even larger wage increases (although 500 million leks have been added to the wage fund under the most recent decree), and who demand a lower retirement age (when we are one of the few countries in the world with a very low retirement age).

Meanwhile, many other people raise genuine problems and certain demands of working people which are not met, not because they are impossible, but because of the shortcomings and incompetence of the working people responsible for these tasks. Goods do not come to every shop on time, and damaged goods are sold; there are such unjust phenomena as back-scratching in the allocation of housing or places in education; services to the people are slow or of poor quality; one or two people accept bribes, as happened in the Second District, etc. As was stressed at the recent plenum of the Tirana District Party Committee, we cannot allow these things. It is precisely here that the self-motivation and energy of the base, whether of party or mass organizations, must be more evident. A vigorous debate must be carried out here in a spirit of militancy, but with concrete steps to correct the situation.

We must fight forcefully against apathy, indifference, and sentimentalism. We think we do a friend a favor when we fail to criticize him for his or his children's failings, but he will be punished much more harshly when his faults are allowed to accumulate. We sit idly by when bad elements behave poorly, swear and use offensive language. We are frightened of such characters, or say "What can we do with him?" Such attitudes destroy the general atmosphere, and detract from that great victory we all enjoy together: peace and security of mind. An apathetic and indifferent attitude is, therefore, alien to us and to the interests of the whole of society. An entire people and general, healthy public opinion, are able not only to bring to heel, but to put in their place a handful of hooligans and vagabonds who want to disturb us. [passage omitted]

Zhelev Meets Reagan in California; Off for Paris

AU0410131490 Sofia BTA in English 0845 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 4 Oct (BTA correspondent)—Yesterday the president of Bulgaria, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, visited Los Angeles.

He had several meetings with political figures and businessmen and was a guest of Rand Corporation, an institute for political researches. During the talks the complicated and dramatic internal political development of Bulgaria was presented.

Dr. Zhelev met Mr. Ronald Reagan, former U.S. president. The Bulgarian president stressed Mr. Reagan's special services to the normalization of international relations and to the processes of sweeping reforms in the East European countries.

Last night Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev and the officials accompanying him left for Paris.

Zhelev's Adviser Tipped as Next Washington Envoy

AU0410154690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] The future Bulgarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Washington will probably be Ognyan Pishev, an adviser to Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, president of the Republic. DUMA was told this by a diplomatic source who wishes to remain anonymous. Ognyan Pishev's agreement to the appointment was reportedly sought during Dr. Zhelev's visit to the United States. The same source reported that diplomats at the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs were apparently surprised by the news because Ognyan Pishev's candidature for the post was not known prior to the president's departure for the United States.

Other diplomatic sources claim that the opposition demanded that its representatives should take up ambassadorial posts in Rome, Bonn, Vienna, Prague, Tokyo, and the capitals of other states with which Bulgaria has well-developed political and economic relations.

Ognyan Pishev has been a member of Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev's team since he was first elected to the post of president of the Republic. He graduated in 1975 from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations.

Civil Peace Movement Protests Sending of Troops

AU0410154990 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] "We insist that the people's deputies reject Mr. Zhelev's commitment to send troop units to the Persian Gulf, and draw his attention to the fact that he should not exceed his constitutional rights," states a declaration of the Supreme Supervisory Council of the Nationwide Movement for Civil Peace, Unity, and Legality.

The declaration describes this commitment as an impermissible political error. "How are we to explain the fact that the same political forces which called upon the Bulgarian Government to apologize for sending military units to Czechoslovakia in 1968 are now planning to send sapper units into the desert to wage war against Iraq," the declaration states. The authors of the document see a contradiction in the support immediately expressed by the Bulgarian leadership for the UN position, which adopted the line of seeking a peaceful settlement of the conflict, and the president's promise "to send a vanguard combat unit to the assistance of the United States."

Rights, Freedoms Movement Wants Hostages Freed

AU0410170590 Sofia BTA in English 1322 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 4 Oct (BTA)—The Central Council of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (of the ethnic Turks) has sent a declaration to the ambassador of Iraq in Sofia. In it is pointed out that as a result of the friendly relations and the economic cooperation between the two countries a great number of Bulgarians were commissioned to work in Iraq. When Kuwait was occupied by the troops of Iraq, there were many citizens of other countries there, Bulgaria included. The foreign citizens in the territory of Iraq are even more. According to the official data, at the moment 692 Bulgarians cannot leave Iraq and this fact can be interpreted in no other way but that they are kept as hostages there, it is said in the document.

The Movement for Rights and Freedoms, which is a public and political organization defending the rights and freedoms both of the individual and of groups and communities of people, states that the sacred right of the Bulgarian citizens to return to their motherland has been violated by detaining them in Iraq.

We insist on repatriating all Bulgarian hostages to Bulgaria, it is demanded in the declaration. In support of the resolution of the UN Security Council we insist on releasing and sending to their countries all other foreign citizens kept as hostages in Iraq, it is written in the declaration.

Gotsev Requests UN Aid From Security Council

AU0410173490 Sofia BTA in English 1705 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 4 Oct (BTA correspondent)—Mr. Lyuben Gotsev, minister of foreign affairs, urged the United Nations to show consideration for the problems which Bulgaria faces as a result of the international trade embargo on Iraq and to render assistance. That was the first time that such high-ranking government official has addressed the recently established Committee on Sanctions at the UN Security Council, and this undoubtedly

was to give additional weight to the arguments. So far the committee has not responded to the Bulgarian requests.

Mr. Lyuben Gotsev explained that there are 694 Bulgarians in Iraq and their condition is exceedingly serious. He asked permission for Bulgaria to send those suffering people humanitarian aid in keeping with the Security Council resolutions. This aid should consist of food which could be trucked via Turkey or flown on charter flights.

The minister elaborated on the grave economic effects of the Iraq and Kuwait embargo on Bulgaria. "We call for consideration and help," Mr. Lyuben Gotsev said. It was indicated that Bulgaria, which now confronts a hard winter, will be particularly grateful for oil deliveries, for direct financial aid as a possible compensation and for concessions with respect to its foreign debt.

Status of Embassy, Trade Representation in GDR

AU0410121390 Sofia OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK in Bulgarian 2 Oct 90 p 4

[Khuben Khubenov article: "Diplomats Remain Without Work"]

[Excerpts] It appears that only 10 percent of the almost 18,000 GDR state employees in East Berlin will preserve their posts. [passage omitted]

After 3 October our embassy in the GDR will become a consular diplomatic bureau. The Embassy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in united Germany will be for the time being in Bonn. However, the diplomatic bureau in Berlin will implement all the basic functions of a diplomatic representation, such as economic, political, cultural-information, and consular functions. The precise number of our diplomats who remain in Berlin will be established later on. The beautiful new building of the embassy will be preserved, because, if the all-German ministries are eventually transferred to Berlin, our embassy to Germany will also be transferred there.

Our trade representation to Berlin will be radically curbed and will turn into economic service bureau. It will be headed by an adviser with the rank of deputy chairman of our economic representation in Bonn. [passage omitted]

DUMA Views CEMA Opposition at Plovdiv Fair

AU3009181790 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 26 Sep 90 p 2

[Article by Katya Yaneva, special correspondent, and Stefan Severin, DUMA correspondent: "CEMA Deliveries Are Reduced, but Will Not Be Discontinued"]

[Text] Plovdiv, 25 September—At today's news conferences with representatives of business circles from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland it was unanimously agreed that the participation of CEMA member countries at this year's Plovdiv fair has never been so limited before. Hungary's attendance is almost symbolic, just enough to maintain the traditional relations. Our trade exchange with Poland, according to plan, is worth 200 million rubles [R] less than in 1989. The deliveries from Czechoslovakia that have been agreed upon for 1990 will not be fulfilled, which is supposed to be our fault, according to experts' opinions.

Our CEMA partners severely reprimanded us. The critical remarks apply to the poor quality of Bulgarian goods, in the first place, to the disruption of contractual discipline, and to the requirement to correct current price levels. The trend toward a market economy prompts our partners to revise our mutual economic relations.

Our trade exchange will be pursued, the CEMA partners stressed, but the free initiative of individual enterprises should be respected, and let them decide for themselves whether they are interested in trading or not.

A major problem of our economic relations is the discrepancy in the turnover of goods, or to put it more precisely, our negative balance. The positive trade balance of Hungary was worth 47 million transferable rubles at the beginning of 1990, for example. We could repay our debt through barter deals, Ferenc Nagy said. He considers barter exchange as the future of economic relations.

During the first eight months of 1990 the Bulgarian-Polish turnover of goods was worth R600 million. The share of Bulgarian exports to Poland is worth only R120 million. We have restricted our deliveries, which influenced Polish imports from Bulgaria, according to the analysis of the Polish economists. They think that the retention of such a high balance might lead to a reduction of mutual deliveries.

Poland will presumably agree to settle our negative trade balance by clearing transactions. This is what we learned today during our meeting with representatives of Polish business circles who are attending the fair. The problem is currently discussed by an experts' commission at the level of deputy ministers. Our other partners, however, seem to prefer direct payments in foreign currency.

The opinion prevails that the turnover will not be interrupted within the forthcoming year, but will be reduced. We should primarily count on reliable partners who will observe the delivery schedules and supply high quality goods, the Hungarian businessmen declared.

The same forecast was made by Engineer Streska, deputy trade representative of Czechoslovakia in our country. According to him, 1990 is an important stage in the bilateral economic relations between our two countries, considering the general reorganization of foreign economic relations. Our domestic economic problems and our notoriously slow economic progress might be an essential obstacle to this intention. Engineer Streska pointed out the agreement on the delivery of 50 streetcar motors from Czechoslovakia as a particularly drastic

example in this respect. For over a year the Czechoslovak partners have been waiting in vain for the Bulgarians to deliver an equivalent amount of goods, but nothing was accomplished.

Our CEMA partners expressed their hope that market economy, the establishment of real prices, decentralization of foreign trade, and settlements in convertible currency will be likely to revive our trade relations with them.

Further on Removal of Star From BSP Building

AU0410125190 Sofia BTA in English 1214 GMT 4 Oct 90

["The Star of Discord Disappears"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 4 Oct (BTA)—This morning the enormous pentacle was removed with the help of a helicopter only in five minutes from the pylon atop the roof of the building of the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) in the center of Sofia.

According to reporters who attended the event, the helicopter carried the dismantled star in an unknown direction.

The star had caused a lot of unrest in the months following the beginning of the democratic changes. There were long and heated debates on this question in the Grand National Assembly and at the 39th Congress of the BSP in September. The Bulgarian Parliament adopted a decision to remove all "non-Bulgarian" symbols from the public buildings in the country and later on, at their congress, the Socialists decided to use the rose instead of the star as the official symbol of the BSP.

In the summer a young man from Sofia threatened he would put himself afire in front of the BSP Headquarters if the star was not dismantled. At that time the BSP Supreme Council promised to remove it in five day's time. When the time limit expired and the star was not removed, there were demonstrations and unrests near the building that ended in the vandal attack, pillage and arson of the BSP headquarters on the night of August 26 to August 27.

Supreme Council To Decide Fate

AU0410173390 Sofia BTA in English 1652 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 4 Oct (BTA)—The fate of the red star, which was taken down from the spire of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] Supreme Council headquarters today, has yet to be decided. The decision will be made at a meeting of the BSP Supreme Council.

It may be "buried" but most probably it will be placed in the memorial complex on Buzludzha peak in the Balkan range, commemorating the foundation in 1891 of what is now the Socialist Party, according to a highly placed BSP source. "Besides, we will open the way for new movements and initiatives," he quipped, referring to the demand of many Bulgarians that the red star should be destroyed rather than preserved anywhere.

Marxists on Radicals' Failure at BSP Congress

AU0410214090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2100 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] At a meeting held today, the Marxist Alternative Movement made a positive assessment of the results of the 39th Congress of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP].

According to Mitryu Yankov, chairman of the movement's Coordinating Council, the proceedings at the last party forum did not lead either to the splitting and disintegration of the party, or to transforming it into a completely new formation. Fortunately, he said, the radicals failed, at least for the moment, to achieve their final goal, namely to transform the BSP into a socialist party of a non-Marxist Western type.

It was emphasized that, as a consequence of the compromises reached at the congress, the tendencies toward making the party a social democratic one have not been not finally overcome, and the danger of a split may reappear again, but with lesser strength.

Without casting doubt upon the party's unity, the meeting proposed and approved the idea of rallying all the left forces in the BSP and uniting them around the movement's organ of the movement, the MISUL newspaper, which should become an organ of the united forces of the left.

Young Socialist Rally Canceled To Avoid Tension

AU0410181690 Sofia BTA in English 1740 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 4 Oct (BTA)—The rally which the Socialist Youth League had scheduled for this evening has been called off to avoid the danger of mounting tension, Mr. Ginyo Ganev, who presided over the sitting of the Grand National Assembly, told the M.P.'s. This happened after opposition M.P.'s accused the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] of breaking the moratorium on mass actions while the president is absent from the country. The BSP leader Mr. Aleksandur Lilov answered that the Socialist Youth League is an independent organization which is not incorporated into the BSP structure.

Several days ago the Socialists' daily "DUMA" frontpaged the notice about the rally. By that action, the Socialist Youth League members intended to protest against the deployment of a Bulgarian military contingent in the Persian Gulf. Several hours before the time when the rally was to start, people started to converge on the site and spoke of their intentions to stage a counter-rally.

BZNS Council's Decision on Political Situation

AU0410133990 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 1 Oct 90 p 1

["Decision of the 30 September 1990 BZNS (Bulgarian Agrarian National Union) Supreme Council"]

[Text] The Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Agrarian National Union [BZNS] after discussing the political situation in the country, the tasks and role of the BZNS in the process of the transition from the totalitarian to democratic society and noting the necessity of further renewing the BZNS decided:

—The BZNS Supreme Council approves the consistent activity of the Permanent Board in implementing the line of the 36th Extraordinary Congress on constructing the BZNS as a modern, independent, and sovereign political force.

—It clearly and categorically dissociates itself from the policy of obedience to the Bulgarian Communist Party, conducted until 10 November 1989.

—It views the dismantling of the totalitarian system and implementing a peaceful transition to democratic society as the most important political task of the BZNS.

The Union of Democratic forces and the other oppositional democratic parties and movements can be natural allies of the BZNS in the struggle for dismantling the totalitarian system.

—The preparation for and participation of the BZNS in the municipal organs' elections must be in the center of the political and organizational activity of the BZNS branches and their leaderships.

For this purpose the BZNS Permanent Board will implement specific forms of cooperation with the leaderships of the oppositional democratic parties and movements.

—The BZNS Supreme Council approves the work of the BZNS parliamentary group in the Grand National Assembly up to this point and its political line of constructive parliamentary opposition.

—It recommends including specialists-consultants in the BZNS parliamentary group and turning this group into the source of new ideas.

—It instructs the BZNS Permanent Board to submit a proposal to the Presidency of the Republic to change the name of Georgi Traykov City, as well as the names of all streets and other objects named after him.

—It approves the position and activity of the BZNS for unification with the Nikola Petkov BZNS, expressed in ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME of 29 August 1990.

The BZNS Supreme Council believes that the future belongs to a strong and independent BZNS. This unity can be achieved only on the basis of the ideological principles of Aleksandur Stamboliyski and on the principle of mutual respect.

Sofia, 30 September 1990.

Non-Parliamentary Parties Want Caretaker Coalition

AU0410173290 Sofia BTA in English 1638 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 4 Oct (BTA)—The administration of Bulgaria should be entrusted to a caretaker coalition government representing the real opposition, say nine parties which recently united in the Christian Social Union (CSU).

The CSU parties: the Vrabcha-1 Bulgarian Agrarian Party [Vrabcha-1 BZNS], the Independent Democratic Party, the Bulgarian People's Party, the Party of Labour, the Christian Radical Party, the Bulgarian Union of European Federation, the New Democracy Bulgarian National Union, the Fatherland Party of Labour and the Bulgarian National Radical Party declare themselves as successors of parties which existed before the Communists came to power in 1944. They consider themselves to be the real opposition in Bulgaria. The CSU is headed by Mr. Strakhil Gichev, leader of the Vrabcha-1 BZNS and son of the prominent agrarian leader Dimitur Gichev.

The CSU does not recognize the legitimacy of the incumbent parliament as the Credentials Committee has not ruled on the validity of the elections and the session is held without rules of procedure. According to the union, the first thing that should be done is to build parliamentary democracy in Bulgaria. It believes that it is a provocation to speak now of a state system and economic problems.

The CSU declares that it has a radical programme to help Bulgaria out of the crisis.

Parliament Enacts Law Against Black Marketeering

AU0410221290 Sofia BTA in English 2149 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Sofia, 4 Oct (BTA)—Today parliament passed a Black Marketeering Prevention and Control Act.

Many M.P.'s who took part in the debate said that the envisaged measures: confiscation of the merchandise, fines ranging from 1,000 to 10,000 leva, administrative penalties for civil servants and prison terms ranging from six months to three years, are too lenient. They found that the black market has reached enormous proportions. One M.P. said that "money changers operate almost in front of the parliament building." Harsher penalties are laid down for black-marketeering in food and baby-food, which are the scarcest items now.

Mr. Ivan Kostov M.P., chairman of the Grand National Assembly Standing Economic Committee, was unhappy with the definition of black market deals in the law because "it still assumes that the state regulates the prices." The law provides a broad interpretation of black market operations.

"This law does not plug the loopholes of the black market," said Mr. Ivan Tenev, ex-minister of the economy and planning. He insisted on an early passage of a new trade law. Many M.P.'s agreed with that.

The executive branch should energetically enforce the anti-black market legislation, the M.P.'s urged.

New Defense Minister Mutafchiev Interviewed

AU0410153790 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 90 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Colonel General Ivan Mutafchiev, minister of national defense, by Colonel Boris Khristov; place and date not given: "Responding to the Call of Heart and Time"; first paragraph is NARODNA ARMIYA introduction]

[Excerpts] Colonel General Yordan Mutafchiev was appointed minister of national defense on 21 September 1990. This change justifiably evokes many questions and thoughts, not only among our officers, sergeants, and soldiers, but also among the general public. We are convinced that the minister himself is no less excited by his appointment to this exceptionally important and high-ranking post which involves great responsibility. It is a quite human and perfectly natural reaction. With the intention of briefing our readers from a primary source, so to say, we arranged an interview with Colonel General Mutafchiev and asked him a few questions.

[Khristov] Comrade Minister of National Defense, permit me to congratulate you on your new post on behalf of the NARODNA ARMIYA editorial staff and on my own behalf, and to wish you health, happiness and success in your exceptionally responsible and noble task.

[Mutafchiev] I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your good wishes and my pleasure that the staff of the daily NARODNA ARMIYA is the first collective in the country to congratulate me on my recent appointment.

[Khristov] To begin with, may I ask you how you happened to devote your life and career to the Army?

[Mutafchiev] As a matter of fact, I will have to go back to the early years of my life in order to answer your question. I was born and raised in the Strandzha area, more exactly in the village of Byala Voda. This is where I went to elementary school, but, since there was no high school in my native village, I continued my education (from 1951 to 1954) in the village of Zvezdets. A large military unit was stationed there in those days. It happened that two officers and a petty officer lived in the house where I was staying. I remember that one of them was called Chervenkov. I had the opportunity of getting acquainted with them. I attended numerous cultural events which were organized by the military unit—such as film shows at the military club and competitions which used to take place in those days and in which I participated. That is how I became interested in military life—I was drawn to these men in uniform who had responded to the call of defending the motherland. Later, I witnessed the arrival of the first armored vehicles—the famous T-34 tanks. That was an important period in my life.

I continued my education at the secondary economic technical school in Burgas, and after graduation, I had to decide what to do. I returned to my former dreams of the Army. I must admit that my uncle Ilya Yordanov Mutafchiev, my father's brother, who was an artillery officer at that time, decisively influenced me. I told him about my wish to apply for military school and he supported the idea. He approved of the military tradition being pursued in our family. I applied, and was accepted by the tank forces department of the Vasil Levski Higher Military School in Veliko Turnovo. That is how I started my military career.

[Khristov] Do you have your own motto in the service?

[Mutafchiev] Yes, I have one. It reads: More respect for people. We should always keep in mind the people's needs and concerns. Whenever there is an opportunity to help, one should never hesitate and turn one's back. That is my motto. [passage omitted]

[Khristov] When did you learn about your nomination for the post of defense minister?

[Mutafchiev] I must tell you quite frankly that I never expected my career to develop as it has throughout my years of service, and I even less imagined that I would be proposed and accepted for the post of defense minister. I am not talking about rumors and gossip, but about facts. I was told about my nomination on the evening before the question was discussed in the Grand National Assembly. [passage omitted]

[Khristov] Can you describe your feelings after the National Assembly elected you to this post?

[Mutafchiev] What should I say? My feelings were mixed. Why? Because in this short period of time I had to take in the great responsibility I was assuming by taking over the leadership of an such an important institution as the Ministry of National Defense. As a supra-party institution the ministry is expected to guarantee the protection of our state and the country's internal stability at the same time. Such are the feelings and thoughts which still occupy my mind today.

[Khristov] You have presumably adopted your own platform for action. Could you share some of your ideas with us?

[Mutafchiev] I had to think about these matters as soon as I was told that I would be requested to appear before

the Grand National Assembly. I did not have much time for preparation, therefore I jotted down some basic ideas. The Ministry of Defense leadership and myself are dealing with the questions related to the Bulgarian People's Army's further development. The questions related to the legal documents on the rights and obligations of military personnel and to the virtually unprecedented new laws which are expected to be drafted and adopted, are to be discussed afterwards. The questions of the Army's depoliticization and democratization are no less important and topical. As to the solution of social problems, we have already submitted our proposals at the first meeting of the renewed Ministry of National Defense collegium. The same applies to the question of the cadres' development—to their future training and deployment. Last, but not least—we should deal with the problem of guaranteeing the country's national security, with our Warsaw Pact membership, with the consolidation of our bilateral military cooperation with the Soviet Union, and with our participation in building up a collective security system in Europe—it is in this sphere that I see vast opportunities for our work.

[Khristov] In connection with your new obligations, can you identify anything that might obstruct you or disturb your work?

[Mutafchiev] Nothing whatsoever should prevent us from solving the current problems. As to our work being disturbed, we should rather call the disturbances problems which call for serious reflection. The external political conditions under which we are expected to cope with the issues of the country's defense could be described as one such subject of reflection. The changes under way in the world, in Eastern Europe, and within the Warsaw Pact can be pointed to in this connection. The problems of domestic policy and of our economic situation should be mentioned next. The strong politicization and polarization of our society which also affects the Army cannot fail to evoke our concern and are really disturbing. In addition to this, the implementation of the social programs and the problems we are expected to resolve in this respect are evidently related to the country's economic development. This cannot fail to disturb us, because, on the one hand we are striving for positive results while, on the other, we have to take into consideration our limited possibilities. We should also consider the changes that have occurred in the people's approach to military service. We should point out that a number of the officers' have expressed the wish to give up their military career. The number of applicants for officers' schools has diminished and this fact should also make one think. In addition to this, numerous young people are evading military service by leaving the country. All these important problems must be solved.

[Khristov] Comrade minister, if we were to classify things according to their importance, which problems are you most concerned about?

[Mutafchiev] I have already answered that question to a certain extent, but I will mention some of the problems which greatly concern me and which should be most urgently resolved. I mean the questions related to the Army's combat readiness; primarily, questions which are most closely linked to our most important task—namely the country's defense. Why? Because we have implemented numerous structural changes, such as reducing the length of military service, for example, which have reduced our manpower by one fourth. We are starting the training year under a new structure, with a reduced staff, which considerably complicates the accomplishment of our tasks. In addition to this, the current structural changes also require the solution of other complicated problems.

Secondly, we are expected to draft new laws, army regulations, and other legal documents. Let me explain: We are now working on two draft laws—the Law on Defense and the Law on the Armed Forces. The Law on the Armed Forces is composed of 3 chapters—the first related to general conditions in the Armed Forces, to their redeployment, and so forth; the second deals with the military service; while the third chapter concerns the status of the soldier. We are planning to complete our work on the Defense Law in October 1990, to examine it in the collegium, and to submit it to the Ministry of Defense staff before it has been discussed and approved by the Grand National Assembly. Different opinions exist on this matter, but I think that the Grand National Assembly cannot adopt the laws in question before having adopted the Constitution, considering that they should be in keeping with it.

[Khristov] Are you thinking about the future, at this early stage? If you are, can you describe your priorities in this respect?

[Mutafchiev] Naturally, we must always think about the future. However, the Army's future depends on our country's future development. In this respect, I imagine a future army with a moderately large, but perfectly trained staff, armed with modern equipment and weapons. The staff should be highly educated and professional, and all its members should devote their lives to the most sacred duty—the defense of the motherland. Such an army, whose soldiers love and revere their profession, can expect the highest public respect and appreciation.

[Khristov] Comrade minister, what are your comments on the question of sending a limited contingent of our troops to the Persian Gulf area?

[Mutafchiev] The question is not quite pertinent. I learned this news from the radio, and we should perhaps wait for Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, the president of the Republic, to return, in order to clarify this question. [passage omitted]

Prospects for Winter Food Supplies Discussed

AU0510102190 Sofia ANTENI in Bulgarian No. 40 3 Oct 90 p 3

[Emiliya Dimitrova article: "Will We Starve?"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The panic continues. Everyone hurries and feverishly seeks ways to build up excessive stocks. Crisis reigns, and fear.... Things have reached the point when on certain "lucky" days three neighbors each bring me two bottles of milk. On other days, I do not even get one. When they happen to find fresh bread, they always bring me an extra loaf, and so on. Confusion reigns everywhere. However, one would like to know where the panic ends and the truth begins. It becomes clear from some frank comments made by Professor Todor Pandov, minister of agriculture and the food industry, that the problem of the food balances and the existing national reserves is indeed the most serious of the current pressing issues. It has arisen primarily because of the extremely unfavorable weather conditions this year, which badly affected the harvest. This is the case with feed corn, for example. We expected to obtain over 2.5 million tonnes of corn, but according to present information the harvest will barely reach 700,000-800,000 tonnes. The situation is similar with sugar beets, sunflowers, legume crops, and rice. On the other hand, the shortage of feed corn is likely to lead to shortage of animal products. Despite the fact that at the moment the production of animal products is proceeding normally, the panic is still universal. The paradox is that certain products which have been produced and supplied to the market in even greater quantities than in previous years have been declared to be in the shortest supply. This is the case, for example, with milk and dairy products. The unjustified mass campaign of fear has created conditions for overstocking, so that these goods are in short supply.

"When we consider the problem of the stocks, I see three main ways to solve it," stated Minister Pandov:

"First, the most important thing is to collect everything which nature has produced, however little it may be, and to utilize it without waste. We must ensure the most efficient and—as the modern term goes—in-depth utilization of all raw materials.

"Second, we must introduce a more rational system for consuming the stocks. We have already drawn up programs for reduced use of sugar and vegetable oils in industrial processes. Certain substitutes will be brought into use in these cases. The sugar saved (which is about 30 percent of the amount previously used for industrial needs) can be directly used to meet some of the population's requirements. Despite the paradoxical situation that, prior to a radical reform for a transition to a market economy, we have to resort to a coupon rationing system for certain goods in short supply, in my view we must maintain this, because it guarantees greater social justice and calm among the population.

"Third, however difficult it may be because of foreign exchange difficulties, we must continue to seek and find ways of importing goods in short supply. For example, negotiations are at an advanced stage for the import of beans from Turkey, rice from certain Asiatic countries, and feed corn from the United States and the EEC." [passage omitted]

"Bread supplies are now guaranteed 100 percent; we have purchased sufficient flour and grain, and have stocks of over 2.1 million tonnes," Minister Pandov stated officially. However, he immediately added that there is a danger, which should not be underestimated, that bread meant for human consumption may be fed to animals. At present prices, bread is one of the cheapest forms of animal feed (a loaf costs 40 stotinki, whereas barley costs 60 stotinki a kilogram.) Accordingly, it may be necessary to introduce coupon rationing for bread in certain regions of the country, in order to restrict its consumption within reasonable limits and ensure that it is used for its proper purpose, and not for feeding animals.

Will we starve? If we draw a sensible balance between the ominous forecasts and the bare truth, it becomes clear that the fear of shortages is not unjustified. However, the conclusion follows that we do possess reserves, and the greatest of these lies in ourselves, namely, in fully mobilizing the available forces. in sensible management and distribution, and in patriotic behavior during these grave days of survival. If we remain sensible and united, there will be no hunger, in spite of the difficulties. The panic is unnecessary! Overstocking creates artificial shortages and conditions for speculation. The solution lies in our industriousness, common sense, and initiative. The true reserve is within ourselves....

DUMA Questions Zhelev's Judicial Review Plans

AU0410134690 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Supreme Court Chairman Has No Right To Propose Judicial Review"]

[Text] The 24 September 1990 letter of the president of the Republic to the chairman of the Supreme Court in which he proposes the adoption of measures for the judicial rehabilitation of people sentenced in seven political trials, essentially aims at a judicial review of the sentences and acquitting the defenders as innocent. This is stated in a letter of Major General Milan Angelov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Court, sent to our editorial board.

As a result of the amended legislature, the chairman of the Supreme Court no longer has the right to propose a judicial review. A judicial review procedure can be initiated by the Supreme Court only on the basis of a request on the part of the person who has been sentenced through the court which has sentenced him, or at a proposal of the chief prosecutor.

When a request by the person who has been sentenced or a proposal of the chief prosecutor have been submitted to the Supreme Court, a judicial review procedure is initiated and the case is reviewed by the appropriate three- or five-member group of judges. They assess whether there have been violations of the law or the procedural rules, whether the evidence submitted was inconclusive, and whether or not the verdict is just. However, they do not establish whether the citizen has been sentenced on the basis of political motives.

Obviously, in the specific case in question, the premise is that those who have been sentenced are innocent people who have been accused on the basis of political motives. However, such an issue is only within the competence of the Supreme Court supervision organ members, Maj. Gen. Milan Angelov writes in his letter.

As far as resolving a judicial review case is concerned, neither the president nor the chairman of the Supreme Court can interfere with the work of this organ. Thus the case of the defendant Atanas Slavov, mentioned in the president's letter, has already been reviewed, however, the judicial act has not been prepared, the decision has not been published, and we, at the Supreme Court leadership, do not know what the decision is and have no right to ask, the letter of the Supreme Court deputy chairman points out.

Youths Desecrate Turkish Mosque in Vidin

AU0510082090 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 90 p 2

[Ninko Gruev report]

[Text] An unknown malefactor broke open the door of the Turkish mosque of Osman Pazvantooglu causing some material damage. Window glass and electric lamps were smashed, and cupboards and 10 Arabic inscriptions were damaged.

The organs of the regional directorate of internal affairs quickly caught the culprits. They are three underage school students from Vidin who, longing for adventures and escapades, committed this abominable act. It was later established that this act was not motivated by nationalistic feelings, since there are no ethnic Turks in Vidin, and therefore there can be no question of ethnically based discontent. Nonetheless, the incident may be utilized in a tendentious manner by certain political forces.

The case of the mosque's desecration has been handed over to the Prosecutor's Office.

Suchy on Vacek Resignation, Unit for Saudi Arabia

LD0410160890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1430 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Vit Suchy, press spokesman for the defense minister's office, today categorically rejected the 3 October CTK report stating that Defense Minister Miroslav Vacek tendered his resignation at the meeting of the defense and security committees of the Federal Assembly.

Vit Suchy also denied reports concerning a special unit that is undergoing training so that it can be deployed in Saudi Arabia. He said parents and relatives of young men who allegedly received orders to join this unit are telephoning the Defense Ministry. Vit Suchy said that those who are in the unit are volunteers and have not received orders.

Vit Suchy also recalled the air crash which occurred in Caslav on 2 September. Involved in it was an extremely experienced pilot of the first class. It cannot be specified whether the fault was equipment or human, added the spokesman.

Havel Criticized for Standpoint Toward Federation

AU0210101390 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 26 Sep 90 p 3

[Vladimir Adamec commentary: "We Need Not Always Agree, Even With President Vaclav Havel"]

[Text] Our president, Vaclav Havel, has again presented some important ideas about the coexistence between the Czechs and Slovaks. Yet this time, apart from a very serious evaluation of the thinking and mood of both nations and also of their representatives, he walked on thin ice, where his advisers did not prepare correct trump cards for him.

With respect to the problems related to the jurisdiction of the national governments, the comparison of our federation, consisting of two nations, to the federation of the United States—which did not come into being as a federation of nations and is not one even now—cannot hold. Such federations are, for example, Belgium or India. Havel's argument that European or world communities would not respect Czechoslovakia in any other but its present federative, fettered shape has only been a cheap argument of Czechoslovakism for a number of months. It does not correspond to the objective reality, but only to the opinion of individuals from various states. What about Yugoslavia? Even this year changes may take place there and the world will accept it as a matter of course.

Havel's argument that "many investors have postponed their investments and many of them have decided to wait" because of the problems of our state integrity and doubts about our internal political stability is true to only a small extent. If the Western entrepreneurs can find out about our internal political problems, then they know very well that no revolution or fighting will result from them, but only polemics on the streets, in the press, and in parliament. I believe that the reason why foreign entrepreneurs are hesitating is that we have not passed crucial economic laws, have not moved toward the market economy, and have not given them the guarantees that if they invest capital in our country, they will be allowed to manage it freely (that is also on the basis of an agreement) and to make money and profit, which they could invest further or repatriate.

From the legal point of view, the idea that the constitution of a federal state should not enshrine the right of one of its partners to secede from the federation cannot hold. It is a natural right of any sovereign nation—which Czechs, as well as Slovaks are—to chose such a form of its statehood as will best ensure its existence and welfare.

By the same token, it is unrealistic from the legal point of view that the three constitutions—two republican and one federal—be drafted at the same time. Each republic must have clearly established principal rights first and only then can it delegate some rights (based on the principles of expediency) to a third party, the federal partner. On whose behalf does the third, the federal partner, want to speak in advance of work on all constitutions proceeding simultaneously? After all, he has not been commissioned by anyone yet....

Despite his condemnation of Prague centralism, I am missing in Vaclav Havel's statement the open admission that what has existed so far was never a federative arrangement of the state of Czechs and Slovaks but an ordinary Czechoslovakist centralist regime. We never had any federation but only its mockery! This is why in the new state and legal arrangement it will be enough to establish an ordinary federative system without using the word "authentic."

Finally, I am missing in his speech at least an indication of what the new function of the president should be. Vaclav Havel lives, for the time being, only from his deserved authority and his actions now correspond to the powers of states with a "presidential system" such as the United States or France. But, is this adequate for a federation of two nations? The absence of a stance on this problem is universal among politicians, legislators, as well as journalists.

Differences Between Calfa, Meciar Viewed

AU0210134190 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 27 Sep 90 p 3

[Igor Cibula commentary: "Why the Two Premiers Differ"]

[Text] Today's meeting in Kromeriz involving representatives of the three governments is taking place on the basis of an initiative suggestion from Federal Premier Marian Calfa, who suggested in Piestany that the course of work on planning and implementing the so-called

small-scale privatization should be discussed at such a meeting. The atmosphere at the exchange of views among the premiers will be marked by the controversy between the Slovak premier and the above-mentioned initiator of the meeting in Kromeriz, where the discussion will certainly not avoid an element of controversy: the division of jurisdiction between the federal institutions and national republican organs.

For this reason, the presence of President Vaclav Havel will be useful. Some people expect that by his authority he will lend his support to Calfa's plan for jurisdictional relations between the federal center and the republics. The above-mentioned supposition ensues from the president's point of view expressed publicly at a recent session of the federal parliament. It has not escaped the notice of political observers that Havel is more inclined toward solutions emanating from Civic Forum circles than he is toward the ideas put forward by the Public Against Violence [VPN] movement, ideas advocated by Meciar.

This situation poses a question: Why do two premiers from the same political camp differ so strongly in their understanding of such an important issue as the federation's arrangement? While Meciar consistently advocates the principle of sovereignty for the national republics as a priority constitutional element, his colleague from the VPN, in his position as federal premier, does not support this consistent attitude. This question is not only being asked by political observers, but also by some Slovak voters who voted for Mr. Calfa on the VPN's candidate list.

The president's advisers will certainly remind him that in the controversy between the premiers, it would be too superficial to only notice Meciar's voice. Jan Carnogursky, Slovak first deputy premier, as chairman of the Christian Democratic Movement [KDH] has stressed with no less vehemence that if the conclusions reached at Trencianske Teplice are not implemented, then not only the KDH, but the entire Slovak Government and political representation would have to once more review its attitude toward Slovakia's constitutional status. Carnogursky's warning was not only addressed to Prague Castle, but indirectly to wider political circles which would like to conclude the so-called Slovak issue with half-baked solutions adopted from the overcome past.

CSKOS Approves More Changes for Trade Unions

AU0310102390 Prague PRACE in Czech 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

["cka"-signed report: "Roman Kovac Elected New President of the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions"]

[Excerpt] Radejov—The approval of the trade unions' main demands for the forthcoming period (we publish this document elsewhere), the election of a new president, the expansion of the presidium, and the adoption of standpoints of principle on the draft law on collective bargaining, the draft law on small privatization, and the amendment to the Labor Code—these are the most important results of the two-day meeting of the General Council of the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions [CSKOS], which ended in the "Letka" recreation center in Slzave Udoli, Hodonin District, yesterday.

In the second part of the Tuesday [25 September] session, which ended long after midnight, the General Council approved a new setup of the CSKOS Presidium, which has been enlarged by the Czech-Moravian CSKOS Chamber, the leadership of the Assembly of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic, and representatives of the Association of Federal Trade Unions. The new presidium has 24 members, instead of seven. The participants in the meeting expect this step to help eliminate existing organizational problems.

The CSKOS General Council accepted the resignation of Igor Pleskot and elected a new CSKOS president. Five candidates were proposed for this post, four of whom renounced their candidacy. Roman Kovac, formerly chairman of the Assembly of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic, was elected CSKOS president by secret ballot until 31 March next year. He received the votes of 20 of the 33 attending members of the Czech part of the CSKOS General Council and the votes of 23 of the 24 attending members of its Slovak part. Roman Kovac announced that he would suspend his chairmanship of the Assembly of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic until 31 March 1991. Asked whether he would reside in Prague or in Bratislava, he replied that he will be a truly federal president and will alternate between the two cities.

Furthermore, the General Council released Borivoj Subrt from the post of CSKOS executive secretary. The new president will himself decide about his successor. Richard Falbr, Vladimir Petrus, and Alojz Englis remain CSKOS vice presidents. Vladimir Zizka was elected as new vice president. The fifth vice president will be named by the Assembly of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic. [passage omitted]

Economy Minister Announces Gasoline Sale Measures

LD0410214190 Prague Television Service in Czech 1850 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Announcement by Minister for Economy Vladimir Dlouhy of CSFR Government decision on oil supplies and the situation in the gasoline market; in the studio—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We estimate the impact of the current oil situation, as a result of the crisis in the Persian Gulf alone, and Czechoslovakia's balance of trade and payments in 1991—if we add up all other impacts, including, for instance, shortfalls in our country's exports to Iraq, for there is no possibility of importing from Iraq within the framework of the

clearing system—to be $1.4 billion, and the government is currently adhering firmly to the policy of not going into debt. Therefore, if we do not want to go in debt we must take certain measures. For this reason, on the basis of yesterday's talk held by the president of the republic, a crisis staff composed of the representatives of all three governments was set up, which today proposed to the government the following package of measures.

There will be, above all, a marked reduction of petrochemical production, which will be far more marked and faster than we carried out last July, to an essentially technological minimum. The petrochemical industry at the level of the whole federation will run at approximately 65 percent of its capacities. Some plants will be closed completely.

In general, however, the issue is to change the structure of the petrochemical industry in favor of the production of gasoline with the restriction declining to only such a degree so as not to endanger supplies, above all, to our internal market but also to some other sectors of our economy. This is what I would like to emphasize: that we define this technological minimum to be such that it will prevent shortfalls on Czechoslovakia's domestic market.

We have taken a number of other steps. A commission has been set up for the reduction of the consumption and regulation of heating oil in the coming period. We are seeking every way of reducing the consumption of motor diesel and other oil products by organizations by seeking possibilities of setting a limit to consumption and by penalizing consumption above that limit. A group of businessmen are at work assessing every possibility of obtaining additional supplies of crude oil and ways are being sought to pay for them, naturally by the export of Czechoslovak-made goods. Political steps have been taken. Already yesterday the interest of the Czechoslovak side was announced in an immediate Soviet-Czechoslovak summit meeting.

At the same time, we have taken steps to carry out further regulation. The following regulatory steps have been decided. At midnight on Friday, that is, if I am not mistaken, at midnight on 5 October, a regulated or limited sale of gasoline to the population will be introduced, with a limit of 25 liters, and will be effective in October. The population will be able to purchase this quantity for the existing current price, that is 12.00 korunas and 13.50 korunas for supergrade. Representatives of both national governments will report on the mechanism of the regulation. Above this limit a higher prices has been set—16.00 korunas and 18.00 korunas per liter respectively.

As regard organizations, here the lower prices limit has not been set. The higher prices will be applicable to all organizations immediately. This is to separate organizations from the population.

At the same time, the price of both motor diesel and heating oil will be increased from the existing 9.00 korunas to 12.00 korunas. I would like to stress that we are endeavoring to protect the population by a certain allocation despite the fact that the price of both crude oil and oil products have increased so much on world markets.

A similar regulatory system will follow from November when all its details will be finalized and the public will be informed accordingly. It is necessary, therefore, to envisage that in the coming months, too, a certain limit will be set. We believe that it will be higher than 25 liters per month which the population will be able to purchase at the original price, with the method of regulation to be determined, and that there will continue to exist a further prohibitive higher price for which people will be able to buy gasoline freely.

I would like to stress one more matter and that is that the Federal Government will naturally prepare similar measures as it did lst July when another regulation was carried out and that in the case of fully subsidized and partially subsidized organizations the increased price of gasoline will be taken into consideration and measures will be taken, as they were last July, vis-a-vis the disabled, the socially disadvantaged, and other groups of our population.

KDS Leader Sees Danger in Havel's Politics

AU0310100990 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 27 Sep 90 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Vaclav Benda, one of the first Charter 77 spokesmen and chairman of the Christian Democratic Party (KDS), by Karel Hvizdala and Tomas Marek; place and date not given: "A Christian Democratic Politician"]

[Excerpts] [MLADA FRONTA DNES] You have mentioned that you are concerned about the future development in our country. On what is your concern founded?

[Benda] I am less and less afraid of a reversal by force or some external intervention. It seems that the period when such a thing was conceivable is successfully behind us. Of course, one cannot rule out the emergence of some completely different global situation or a sudden crisis in the whole region but there is no acute threat of anything like that happening. Nonetheless, there exist two phenomena representing a serious threat in the short and medium term. One of them is the unabating resistance of the old political structures. By old structures I do not mean just people linked with the present Communist Party, whose significance is relatively marginal. I am thinking, in particular, of 1968-vintage excommunists and the influential left-wing political currents concentrated around these people. Democratic ideas and democratic methods of government simply are not in the blood of the great majority of them, though this does not apply to all of them. These people, perhaps unconsciously, severely hamper the democratic process and its development and are, in essence, paving the road for some kind of neototalitarianism, albeit one without gallows and the other drastic excesses of the fifties. I am

thinking, in particular, of currents around the so-called Revival Club, especially the left-wing parliamentary group around Jicinsky, Lis, but also Dubcek, Kolmistr, and others. I would not dare accuse any one of them of a purposeful quest for totalitarianism but they have learned to think in this way and a number of steps they take are pointing towards the restoration of totalitarianism. [passage omitted]

I could mention here the successful endeavor of the left to monopolize the mass media, television, and radio and its attempts to enshrine this situation in law or make it permanent. There have been sharp conflicts in parliament over this issue. Or let me cite another example. In connection with the current preparation of new Federal Assembly rules of procedure, attempts have surfaced to transfer the weight of political decision making from parliament to behind-the-stage negotiations between the bosses of political parties in order to push parliament out of decisionmaking and democratic procedures. When we look around us, we will find a number of similar signs.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] What is the other danger confronting us at present, in your opinion?

[Benda] I see a danger which has its origin in Vaclav Havel's slogans and ideas about nonpolitical politics, independent lists of candidates, and independent personalities. When some slogan is translated into politics, the resultant form is often very far from the original idea. Be that as it may, these slogans have taken hold to a certain extent and the general mood is ill-disposed toward political parties as such and well-disposed toward ideas about some sort of a third path, represented by movements or formations of a civic nature that are miles away from pure politics. I welcome it when the president acts as someone who is above party politics. Yet in parliament, for example, this phenomenon becomes highly problematic. If a parliament is composed, or would be composed, of 300 absolutely independent personalities, it will not function at all, no matter how good these personalities might be. A representative democracy of the European type is unthinkable without political parties. What could be the outcome of this [dominance of civic movements and absence of political parties]? Either a totally ineffectual and unproductive anarchy or—and this is more probable and politically more logical—these personalities will begin to from groups not according to their universal outlook, as is the case with political parties, but according to specific particular interests. Instead of representing the interests of the country, the representative bodies will then represent the interests of individual social and other groups, such as trade union members, Moravian nationalists, or students. This is essentially a path leading to a corporatist system such as was Franco's Spain or Musollini's Italy, a path leading to the destruction of parliamentary democracy.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] Once you said that the Civic Forum has an eminent interest in the November date of the communal elections. Why?

[Benda] It is hard to guess other people's motives but I believe that among the main motives is the Civic Forum's apprehension about its own future and the conviction that the euphoria following the June electoral success will still make an impact in November. The Civic Forum will achieve a decent result, a result that will certainly be better than if the elections were held, let us say, next March. [passage omitted] The Civic Forum wants the communal elections to be over before the negative impact of the economic reform perceptibly affects the public mode of thinking and the Civic Forum's popularity.

Czech Premier Pithart Interviewed on Economy

LD0310045790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Regular weekly interview with Czech Government Premier Petr Pithart, by unidentified interviewer; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Interviewer] Mr. Premier, the serious economic situation has prompted the need to establish a crisis staff, which includes all three premiers of the governments. What are the priority tasks of this staff and what are the areas where possible differences of views nevertheless appear?

[Pithart] The president of the Republic has convened the crisis staff for Wednesday afternoon. Today I am able to tell you only about that which I myself will try to assert there. I proceed from the premise that all of us, I have in mind the citizens, the media, and also constitutional bodies, have so far not managed to focus our attention on the threat posed by the dramatically changing external conditions to the very foundations of our economy. At issue are our trade relations with the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, which will be in existence for only one more day. At issue is also the crisis in the Near East, which is pushing oil prices to an unexpected and, tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, possibly to a dizzy height. From the viewpoint of all these threats, some of our disputes appear virtually as petty wars. We must simply come to an agreement on stipulating which disputes are at issue, what will be done with them; we must agree that we may, for example, adjourn them and for how long. What I am about to say is not a play on words, but our basic priority is to arrive at an agreement that political priorities and economic ones, which directly proceed from the political ones, do, indeed, exist, and to specify them, of course. If we do not succeed in doing this, we should not hold the posts we do.

In my view, at issue today are three fundamental problems of our economy: firstly, the question of how to deal with the present price of oil; secondly, how to resolve the problem of our solvency vis-a-vis foreign countries. In this respect I have in mind the solvency of the state as a whole and of individual enterprises. And thirdly, we must resolve the question of power division between the Federation and the republics. What has already been

resolved should in my view be implemented as soon as possible and what is still subject to disputes should be postponed for a more suitable period. I think that we cannot afford this right now.

[Interviewer] Your special television speech pegged to the telex of the first deputy Czech minister of the interior has caused considerable sensation. However, further information is rather incomplete, and the resignation of Deputy Minister Vaculka will definitely not clarify for the public the motive of this more than strange deed.

[Pithart] I am convinced that since 17 November there has never been such a rapid reaction—same day reaction—to the error committed by a high state official. The error was immediately reported, described, and labelled by the largest mass media—television, and we drew immediate personnel consequences from it.

I have nothing to add to this, concerning the motives; Deputy Minister Vaculka has made a statement. A request to be released from a post is a quite a common form of recalling—and furthermore it is a form which makes it more clear that he who has made a mistake recognizes it as a mistake.

[Interviewer] Recently there has been more criticism of communists or possibly ex-communists who have remained or returned after more than 20 years to important state or economic posts after 17 November. Members of the so-called Third Resistance are uncompromising in their views. Rightly or not, this will be a question for you too, as you, after all, have been called by Mr. (Albert Prouza) political recidivist because of the alleged defense of nomenclature cadres. I would first of all ask about the generation from 1968.

[Pithart] Concerning the so-called 1968 generation, I have had and have a very critical attitude. I have expressed this in my book "Sixty-Eight"—after all the reviews of the book, there is a feeling that this is the hardest-hitting, coming to terms with all illusions of that year. I wrote the book in 1977. It was published in several home and foreign editions, for the last time in Czech in London in 1985. That is, in a period when none of my critics had said a single word on the topic in public. I can assure you that it was not easy, as a majority of reform communists subjected me then to a shower of reproaches. I naturally oppose this generation being given preferential treatment at the expense of others. Why should be it so? Let us not forget that generation changes happen automatically. Most of the biggest culprits from the fifties are dead. Those who were 30 in 1968 are 50 today. Those who were 30 in 1948 are 70-plus today.

I am naturally in favor of full rehabilitation of those who carried the heaviest burden of suffering in the fifties, not only historical, but above all judicial, civic, and material rehabilitation. The bill on judicial rehabilitation of those who suffered in prisons was initiated by the Czech government last spring. Now the main thing is for the cases to come to courts quickly. Here we, unfortunately, can see that the courts are making the tasks which we have set somewhat easier for themselves. It is, naturally, easier to find in documents cases which are 20 years old than cases 40 years old or more—there one must go to archives.

We are therefore regretably witnessing that courts are beginning to rehabilitate people who suffered in some way after 1968, and this is from the human viewpoint totally unacceptable. We have come to an agreement with the Czech National Council, and Mrs. Buresova, the council's chairwoman, has issued a statement appealing to courts to reverse this practice and begin to rehabiitate those who today are 70 or 80 years old.

[Interviewer] Mr. Premier, you have had to deal of late with the Czech and Slovak question, but manifestations of dissatisfaction are coming also from Moravia, complaining that you are not still doing anything for her, or rather that nothing is being done in this regard. Some letter writers recall that you promised a great many things before the elections but that you have failed to fulfill your promises.

[Pithart] Yes, I also receive such letters. I believe that the origin of this dissatisfaction lies on the one side in impatience, but on the other one there also exists a certain lack of understanding of the essence of the matter. I am aware of Moravia having its own identity, and made this awareness clear long before the events of last November. During my election campaign I never claimed that I or the government would restore the status of Moravia. I declared that Moravia would be as Moravians wanted her to be and the government would not try to prevent it.

People apparently persist in thinking that the government fixes everything. True, many things come under the government's jurisdiction, but not all of them. Some of them come within the powers of the community of citizens.

With regard to the land setup, the Czech National Council and government have condemned unequivocally its abolition in 1949. We have set up a commission of experts for the question of the land setup, which should draw up in the shortest possible time material to enable us to examine in a businesslike manner this complicated problem. This commission also includes representatives of Moravian initiatives. The government will not have either the first or the last word in this matter. This will be the matter for the representative body, which in our instance is the Czech National Council.

The claims of Deputy Barta that by setting up this commission the government has put a brake on the whole matter are totally absurd. On the contrary, I would like precisely named alternatives of the land setup, which is precisely, the commission's task, to speed up as much as possible the clarification of standpoints.

On my part, I believe that the questions of the land setup cannot be tackled before local government elections. Without elected local government representatives, one cannot, for instance, tackle such seemingly minor matters as the land border, by which I mean the border between Moravia and Bohemia.

I would like to send the following message to the Moravians: I have not altered my viewpoint, but that it is primarily up to them. As far as I know there has not yet been a businesslike debate on this subject throughout the Moravian public. I am aware only of individual proclamations and polemics, but not of a unification of viewpoints. It is up to the Moravians to form a truly representative representation.

Meciar Comments on Oil Reserves, Shop Strikes

LD0210222890 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] [Announcer] The Government of the Slovak Republic held its regular Tuesday session today. It discussed two bills on federal laws: on obligations and about the creation of the so-called control regime for the import and export of top products and technology. It also approved the bill on economic reform in the food-agriculture complex and also setting up a so-called crisis headquarters to deal with the current complicated economic situation, particularly in the area of fuel and energy.

The first question of the journalists, among whom was also our correspondent Bohus Gecy, was about the state's oil reserves. Premier Vladimir Meciar gave this answer to it at today's press briefing:

[Begin recording] [Meciar] We have enough oil for two days. The reserves are continuously topped up and one of the crisis measures will be to look for a way out. We have various alternatives. One of the possibilities is to provide a certain amount of oil on ration and to sell the rest freely for money. We shall see whether this will be necessary. With regard to the supplies of oil from abroad, several alternatives have been worked out. Today we discussed them again. Something could perhaps be done to moderate the situation but the overall deficit cannot be made good by the end of the year and we shall definitely have a deficit for this year.

[Gecy] What is the stand of the government toward the League of Businessmen, which announced a warning strike for Thursday from 0900 to 1100? They already passed this information to the mass media and it is possible to calculate that, in the event of government's inaction—if, in their view, we give it this name—it could spill over into a normal two-day strike the following week.

[Meciar] I intended to discuss this yesterday, in the Slovak National Council, but I will speak about it today. It is possible to conduct a sensible discussion about all sensible matters with this government. But no one nowhere is going to use strikes in order to put presure on us. They are free to strike if they wish, but they will change absolutely nothing in our decisions. This way of conducting business must end once and for all. It is the government which rules, it has the right to make decisions, and it is its duty to make decisions about the interest of all citizens. And if we were to frequently heed anyone who poses threats to us, we would be only whipping boys, we would not be government officials making government policy. (?They should think of this). The government will be able to respond, but we shall, of course wait for the implementation of the laws and for privatization according to republican laws. But the treatement of privatized shops, the compiling of stocklists, and the evaluation are exclusively in the government's jurisdiction. So that if they think that they can exert this kind of pressure on us, then it should be said that the government has the means to effectively respond to this issue.

[Unidentified correspondent] How will the sale of foodstuffs be tackled in the event that a serious two-day strike takes place?

[Meciar] we have carried out a preliminary analysis of this situation and there is currently no direct threat of this kind. If it materializes, we shall carry out (?speedy) and effective measures. It is possible to solve things already today and to hand the shops to those who are interested in purchasing them in the future. They will be given the opportunity to provide essential supplies to the population. It will be also necessary to mobilize additional reserves. But nobody will wish to starve people because they want to make a nice tidy sum of money, because there have been instances when we handed the shops straight over to the staff. And even though there are people who are working honestly and who earned 1,700 korunas a month—even they cannot give a guarantee that they will not sell it to someone else after two years. And since even they themselves cannot give this guarantee, then big capital which is beyond their control is involved for none of them may be selected to purchase the shop in the capacity of (?senior) partner. So, our pursuit of justice and legality is in the interest of all. If they do not wish to accept this system, they must reckon with citizens deciding whether they wish tolerate shop staff of this kind. [end recording]

[Announcer] I would like to add another report, granted to me by my colleague Bohus Gecy from the government lobby, to the words of Premier Meciar. According to this report there should be a monthly allowance of 30 liters [of gasoline) at the current price and the rest of the gasoline would be purchased by drivers for the so-called market price, which should be in excess of 21 korunas a liter. However, I wish to point out that this is only one of the possible variants of solving the oil problem.

Premier Meciar Evaluates Kromeriz Conference

LD0110012290 Prague Television Service in Slovak 1855 GMT 30 Sep 90

["Regular Sunday TV Talk" by Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar; place and date not given—live or recorded; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Meciar] ...The standpoint of the Slovak Government and of the Slovak bodies is unequivocal in this respect. Slovakia can serve as a stabilizing factor in the situation. We take the view that given the wide spectrum of views and standpoints which occur in Civic Forum, it is natural that there are also conflicting ones. However, it is a bad thing not to collectively face up to certain radical standpoints, because that then calls into question our position and our standing in being able to get it clear to ourselves, who make up Civic Forum, where its center is, what its main role is. We do not expect radical views which call for political strikes to find support in Slovakia.

In connecton with events last week, the talks between the three governments in Kromeriz were very important. I want to say that these trigovernmental talks were again preceded by a situation which is gradually becoming typical. Before the governments declared their standpoints, and said what they thought about the matter, strike committees were formed which threatened the governments by saying that if things do not turn out as we want them to, there will be trouble, goods will not be distributed, we will disrupt the market, and then we will see what the consequences will be.

Dear citizens, this is your government. This is not the way to solve things. It will not work under duress, nor can it yield to intimidation. That was what the Slovak Government said in Kromeriz. That is the standpoint it took. Let me tell you why.

Not many people realize that privatization means not only little shops, speeding up turnover, and speeding up changes in the behavior of sales assistants in the name of making sure the market is properly supplied. The fact is that there are an awful lot of them—about 80,000 units are going to be privatized—means that their economic power is also changing. For example, according to the data we have, the acquisition value of the premises which are going to be privatized in the framework of services and shops amount to 80 billion korunas, but the credits provided for their operation amount to 50 billion korunas. When the amount of money which will be generated by privatization was reckoned up, it was found that about 30 billion korunas will be paid (?into) the bank, which means that there will be a discrepancy of 20 billion which would not be covered financially by the revenue generated. The state has no source from which to make up these funds, because if it did so, it would cause the kind of inflation which would threaten everyone. Therefore, in the interest of the rest of the people, we took the view that we cannot give too much preference to a different group, because the consequences would be very bad for everyone, not only the danger of the market collapsing, but a danger of inflation, whose consequences we would then be unable to cope with. [passage omitted]

Another question is what should be subject to privatization. The law or the bill which we approved at Kromeriz is so wideranging that it enables almost anything to be privatized. It was said that things which are state property could be subject to privatization—enterprises which are self-financing, or partly or wholly financed from the state budget, things which serve the needs of trade, services, and production.

In essence, what will or will not be privatized will be decided by district commissions which will enter them on a list. Then they will be approved by the relevant ministries. This method shows the very broad possibility for privatizing almost anything. If people are interested, we will support the initiative. Of course, success is conditional on the fact that shops will be privatized, but production units which help to safeguard the supply system in these shops will also be privatized commensurately. The Slovak Government will not make difficulties in this respect, nor will it put obstacles in the way. Instead, it will have an interest in speeding up the whole process and ensuring that it proceeds in the best possible way.

There are attempts to have the whole privatization process completed by Christmas. I replied to this question in Kromeriz by saying that it definitely will happen by Christmas, but Christmas of which year, I don't know. This is because this cannot be a one-off process over a period of a few weeks. Evaluations of the fixed assets must be drawn up, evaluations of the stocks must be drawn up, and these and many other things must be resolved so that privatization takes place in a lawful way in the interest of all of us.

I would like to appeal to those who wish to privatize not to unnecessarily run down the levels of stocks in the shops. This is because the value of an individual shop is also determined by the value of the stocks, which is the third component of the price. To run down these stocks would be detrimental to the quality of the services. Do not be so hungry for profit that those who will provide your livelihood in the future—your customers—will suffer. They are also citizens of our country, and therefore in their interests, too, the government must take measures to stabilize the market.

I would like to thank the communications workers who rejected the attempt by federal trade union representatives to cause a strike in the whole federation, which would have run counter to the interests of the Slovak Republic in settling relations.

So, dear citizens, we are going to have to think about how to do business, where to get the money for it. Those of you who want to do so, do not be afraid. Go for it! It may

being you stability and employment. We, for our part, will have to reflect on stability and political calm in the country. Thank you.

[Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 2030 GMT on 30 September in its regularly scheduled newscast carries a report on Meciar's weekly television address. The report says Meciar expressed his views on the calls for the resignations of some government members, including Federal Premier Marian Calfa. Meciar noted that the government and the Federal Assembly came into being as a result of coalition agreements between the Civic Forum, Public Against Violence, and other parties represented in the government. Meciar said he regrets to hear the voices from some groups in Civic Forum which cast doubt upon the legitimate nature of these bodies.

The report says Meciar appealed for preserving the maximum political deliberation in assessing all circumstances, for demonstrating an interest in the stability and development of the situation for the better, so conflicts which could damage political life do not arise]

VPN Chairman Outlines Movement's Objectives

AU0310103390 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 28 Sep 90 p 13

[Interview with Fedor Gal, chairman of the Council of the Public Against Violence (VPN) movement, by unidentified reporter, reprinted from issue No. 26 of the weekly SLOBODNY PIATOK; place and date not given: "The Public Against Violence Will Fulfill the Meaning of its Existence"]

[Text] [SLOBODNY PIATOK] Would the transformation of the movement into a political party help the movement?

[Gal] Social movements come into existence, blossom, stagnate, and perish as the social problems—due to which they were established—arise, explode, and perish. From this point of view it must be said that the VPN will fulfill the meaning of its existence in the next parliamentary elections. At the same time, however—and I am also of this opinion —it has too vast an intellectual potential and too large a political and universal human capacity to be able to simply leave the political scene. It would be beneficial—not to our movement but to this society—if the transformation into a modern political party really took place within three, four, or five years.

[SLOBODNY PIATOK] The slogan with which the VPN goes into the local elections is: Do not vote for parties, vote for personalities who will be capable of solving problems. The VPN does not want to win these elections?

[Gal] The issue is not whether the VPN will win local elections. Everyone who, in the name of allegiance to a party, succeeds in preventing experts getting into the organs of the local administration, will lose. I emphasize—experts, disregarding their political affiliation.

[SLOBODNY PIATOK] Does it mean that the VPN can form a coalition with any party?

[Gal] We are in favor of forming natural coalitions. Such coalitions cannot be formed, at the local level, with anybody. There are limits to this naturalness, however, which are given by extremes. At this moment I believe that the left-wing extreme is the Communist Party of Slovakia in the form we know it at present, and the right-wing extreme are nationalist groups, for example, the Slovak National Party in today's form.

[SLOBODNY PIATOK] Judging from the discussion at the assembly, there are serious differences within the VPN.

[Gal] Our movement has never been monolithic. It gives enough room to everyone for thinking and acting. We do not want to prescribe, command, and decide and, we cannot solve problems for others. In our program we want to address people and to compete for their support. If we are unsuccessful here, then we will have lost. Based on information that I have about our political scene and about the situation in the Czech lands, I can say with authority that at this moment there is no other political force that is more consolidated than the VPN.

Slovak Government Views Economic Situation

AU0210100390 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 26 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

["NO"-signed report: "Jurisdiction Over One's Own Resources; From a Slovak Republic Government Session"]

[Excerpts] The Government of the Slovak Republic met in Bratislava yesterday. [passage omitted]

It acknowledged a report on the development of the national economy in the Slovak Republic in the first half of 1990. It noted that all past shortcomings, whose impact was until now more or less hidden, have started to make themselves perceptibly felt in the social and economic development. The structural weakness and deformation of the Slovak economy, its supplementary nature and inadequate links within the economy, its one-sided orientation toward unexacting economies, excessive dependence on strategic raw materials, small proportion of finishing branches, etc., have become clearly apparent. The first steps were taken in the first half of the year in the transition toward a market economy with the aim of establishing conditions for an extensive restructuring of the entire economic system as of 1 January 1991. The point of departure is the elimination of long-standing deformations which did not make it possible to apply correct value ratios. Owing to the cutbacks in raw material imports from East European countries and the conversion of engineering production, problems that had been latent have made themselves fully felt and intensified the imbalanced development of the economy. Production volume in the

basic production branches has declined and the movement of labor has intensified, which has also had an impact on unemployment (the number of unemployed in the Slovak Republic increased from 5,800 in the first half of the year to almost 13,000 by the end of August). The imbalanced development of citizens' revenues and expenditures continued. The declining production volume and labor productivity, the slow pace of introducing technologically advanced types of production, the insufficient activity of the entrepreneurial sphere in exploring new techniques, and other deficiencies were complicating the meeting of several needs of society. There were problems, in particular in gaining market share on the demanding foreign markets, in meeting the increased demands of the domestic market, and in production-commercial relations among enterprises. On aggregate, all these problems have been reflected in the development of national income, which, according to estimates, was 2 percent lower than in the equivalent period of 1989. The volume of investment work and deliveries of machinery and equipment have increased. The number of unfinished projects declined; however, this decline has not been achieved by an accelerated completion of projects but by a limitation of the start of new projects. The level of private consumption has been affected by the growth in the cost of living, caused by price increases. There has been a decline in real income per capita as a result. [passage omitted]

The government appointed a new 28-member Slovak Republic Government Council for Nationalities and Ethnic Groups and approved its status. This consultative, initiating, and coordinating body of the Slovak Republic Government is chaired by Jan Carnogursky, first deputy premier of the Slovak Republic.

It approved organizational and technical provisions for the elections to the self-governing bodies of communities, to be held on 23 and 24 November 1990. It also approved the composition of a 17-member Coordinating Commission of the Slovak Republic Government for securing elections to the self-governing bodies of communities. It is chaired by Anton Andras, Slovak Republic minister of interior. The Slovak Republic Government discussed also some other issues.

Minister Cites Financial Policy Disagreements

AU0210113590 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 27 Sep 90 p 3

[Article by Michal Kovac, minister of finance of the Slovak Republic: "A Word on Financial Policy"]

[Text] **NARODNA OBRODA readers have learned from the articles "Quo Vadis Federation?" (14 September 1990) and "Toward Inflation in Three?" (22 September 1990), as well as from the LIDOVE NOVINY article "The Economic Dimension of the Discussions About the Federation" (I. Kocarnik) about the existence of pending problems as regards the delineation and division of the spheres of competence between federal and republican bodies. In this article I would like to assume a stand on the problems pending in the sphere of finances and the banking system.**

What the Agreements Said

At their talks in Piestany, representatives of the Czech and Slovak Governments agreed that there would be a single currency and one uniform monetary policy, implemented by the central bank at the federal level and by two other banks in the republics, which would have the status of legal subjects. These three banks would take part in the formulation and implementation of monetary policy. We also agreed that the law on the foreign exchange market would be within federal competence and that there would be a single foreign exchange market, while the laws governing the stock exchanges would be within the jurisdiction of the governments of the republics.

There exist objections to these agreements on the part of the federal bodies—which in this case means the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Czechoslovak State Bank.

As far as taxation is concerned, the representatives of the Federal Ministry of Finance advocate a further restriction of the sovereignty of the republican bodies in favor of federal bodies. They demand that the approval of the laws on the value-added tax, excise duties, import duties, the corporate tax, and the income tax be within the federation's jurisdiction.

Counter Arguments

They argue that the logic of a market economy requires a certain reinforcement of the federation in the sense of macroeconomic regulations—the regulation of overall demand, the influence of the market environment, social guarantees, etc. (see Ivan Kocarnik's article "The Economic Dimension of the Discussions About the Federation" in LIDOVE NOVINY). They derive from this that the division of the spheres of competence should be guided by three principal criteria:

—the need for a system which conforms with the market, that is, a system that does not erect obstacles to a market economy.

—economic efficiency, which I. Kocarnik interprets as follows: "It is practical and 'cheaper' for our citizens (tax payers) if those public goods which, of the free will of our nations, will be provided uniformly throughout the entire CSFR will be secured 'federally,'—that is, either from the federal budget (for instance, subsidies for state-owned transportation, agricultural subsidies, defense expenditures, etc.) or from a separate federal fund (health and social insurance, for example)."

—the "willingness of our citizens, voters, and tax payers to carry a higher tax burden in the event of an irrational and economically inefficient arrangement of relations within the framework of the federation."

It is necessary that the readers of NARODNA OBRODA and LIDOVE NOVINY learn also the arguments put forward by the Slovak side during the talks in Piestany and at subsequent talks.

How We Respond

We wish that rational market relations between the Czech and Slovak economies assume shape as soon as possible. Such relations can come about only in a market mechanism, under the conditions of free price fixing, liberalization of imports, and the existence of competition. **The need for an arrangement of relations and jurisdictions which conforms with the market does not require the same (uniform) tax rates in every community and in each of the republics, even if the Slovak and Czech economies—or, if you prefer, the economic subjects in the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic—were equally strong. The states associated in the EC, for instance, have a common market but the taxation laws are passed by each state separately and the tax rates, too, differ.** They must differ because their economic conditions differ.

In our country, too, we have diverse economic conditions. This is reflected, inter alia, in the fact that per-capita national income in the Slovak Republic is lower than in the Czech Republic, and will stay lower for some time to come. Therefore, if we want to accelerate economic growth in the Slovak Republic, we must have a relatively lower level of consumption per capita and higher accumulation. This makes it necessary, apart from other things, to leave greater financial resources in the entrepreneurial sphere and to concentrate a relatively lower volume of financial resources in the state budget than is the case in the Czech Republic. The regulation of redistribution processes must therefore be in the hands of the republican bodies.

It must be the economic bodies of the respective republic which determine which level of taxation of enterprises and the population provides incentives or disincentives for economic growth. They must therefore have the possibility to approve and change taxation laws and to approve and change taxation rates—and not only provide exemptions from federally-set rates, as proposed by representatives of the Federal Ministry of Finance. **The distribution and redistribution of national income, or gross domestic product, provided it is implemented within the framework of resources generated in the respective republic, does not jeopardize the stability of the currency and is one of the inalienable rights of every nation, every republic. The approval of taxes by republican bodies within the framework of a uniform tax system also does not violate conformity with the market.**

An Unfit Subject for Discussion

In the article mentioned above, [Deputy Federal Minister of Finance] Ivan Kocarnik voices the proposition that views speaking about "two economies, two markets, etc." must be rejected. I remember that the proposition about a single economy used to be emphasized by the followers of the totalitarian regime and the market centralism associated with it. We know that this regime deprived the nations not only of political freedoms and rights but also of their inalienable right to decide about the use of their natural resources and about the use and distribution of generated wealth, etc. Every nation has its economy and, under conditions of democracy, also the full right to decide on the use of natural riches, on the distribution of generated resources, etc. In a democratic system, national republics bear full and comprehensive responsibility for the economic and social development on their territory. They must therefore avail themselves fully of the possibilities of influencing this development and of the means to eliminate undesirable phenomena and tackle conflicts that may arise. This should not be a subject of discussions and negotiations.

Both our nations have the same interest in a stable and healthy currency, which is why they are renouncing their right to their own currency and their own monetary policy. Decisions in the sphere of currency or monetary policy can have a strong impact on distribution and redistribution processes and can provide incentives or disincentives for economic growth. Such decisions must therefore be made jointly, on the basis of parity, by representatives of the republican bodies in the relevant federal institutions.

Ivan Kocarnik lists economic efficiency among the criteria, according to which one must determine which powers should rest with the federation and which with the republics. He claims that it is practical and cheaper if, for example, health and pension insurance, subsidies for state transportation, agricultural subsidies, and defense expenditures are provided for federally.

What can one add to this? Let me recall that we are not building a unitary state but a federation. The advocates of a unitary state would find it congenial if we had a single government, a single ministry of finance, economy, transportation, education, culture, etc. Are we supposed to go back to these things because it would suit a few thousand bureaucrats concentrated in the federal bodies? I believe that the majority of Czechs, Slovaks, and members of the ethnic minorities living in our common homeland are in favor of an efficiently working federal state. This calls for a decentralized state administration, a maximum of self-administration, and a minimum of federal but also republican state administration. Our view that defense, foreign service, the protection of the republic against an external enemy, and currency should be under federal administration conforms with this. Another question is the existence of joint, transnational corporations, control centers, and the like.

How Many Banks of Issue

I must also react to the article "Toward Inflation in Three?" in the 22 September issue of NARODNA OBRODA, which was reprinted from issue No. 18 of the daily MLADA FRONTA DNES. The author informs the readers that, according to Federal Minister of Strategic

Planning P. Hoffmann, the two republics' idea presented in the commission of experts for financial and banking issues [dealing with the division of powers between the federation and the republics] is such that, while a single currency should be preserved, the issuing activity must be linked to the extent and nature of the economic reproduction of the republics. Up to here the information is roughly correct. The article goes on to say that "the two additional banks of issue are to be an expression of the economic sovereignty of the republics. They are to determine the monetary, credit, and other limits virtually on their own, following an agreement with the central bank of issue."

The claim that the representatives of the republics demand that the republican banks of issue themselves determine the monetary, credit, and other limits is incorrect. The representatives of Slovak republican bodies acknowledged and continue to acknowledge that, if there exists a single currency, the principles (rules) of regulating monetary supply, the exchange rate, and credit and monetary policy must be uniform. Should it prove to be necessary to carry out regulation by fixing limits for the aforesaid activities, these limits would have to be approved at the federal level together with representatives of the two republics, with the imposition of the majority's will being ruled out. Only those decisions would be legally valid to which representatives of both republics would give their consent, regardless of whether they operate in federal or republican institutions. Representatives of the republics working in federal and republican institutions would both share in decisions made at the federal level. The representatives of the Slovak Republic are of the opinion that the banks of issue should be independent of the government. We regard as acceptable a system such as the one operating in the United States, for example.

It needs to be noted that when the Slovak side demanded the existence of banks of issue in the republics, it received the reply that "...nowhere in the world are there two or several banks of issue in one state." On a question of such importance, our citizens have the right to know exactly what the situation in the world, respectively in states with a federal arrangement, is like.

The opposite of what some representatives of federal bodies claim is true. **Virtually all federal states, with the exception of the USSR, have several banks of issue. I hope that we all will agree that the USSR cannot serve as an example for us in this field of activity. It is generally known that in the FRG the Bundesbank has its seat in Frankfurt and other banks in individual federal laender. It is also known that the Federal Reserve System in the United States consists of the Federal Reserve Board [FRB], which is not a bank but a board, and of 12 federal banks of issue. Each of the 12 banks issues banknotes, denoted in the circular figure on the left-hand side of the dollar bills.**

Letter B in the circular figure means, for example, that the banknote was issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Letter C stands for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, letter D for a banknote issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Ohio, etc.

The FRB makes decisions and regulates the activities of 12 banks of issue, which are independent legal subjects. According to the needs of individual regions (there are 12 of them), the banks of issue engage in independent issuing activity, in agreement with the FRB. Individual banks of issue determine interest rates autonomously, according to the situation in their own regional market. They are also autonomous in determining the categories and criteria for the creation of mandatory reserves which commercial banks must deposit with individual banks of issue. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York, for example, has a privileged position in that it is the only bank of issue introducing federal treasury bonds to the market.

I am convinced that in the CSFR we could make do with two banks of issue **subordinated to a federal monetary (issuing) board.** The Federal Monetary (Issuing) Board would have a small staff of top experts. All transactions would be carried out by two federal banks of issue, one for the Czech Republic and one for the Slovak Republic.

In view of the tradition of a single central bank in our country, which came into being as an expression of a unitary state, we propose that it be preserved. At the same time we propose the formation of two additional banks of issue as part of the federal issuing system. Such a solution would correspond to the federal setup and represent a certain compromise between the ideas of federal and republican bodies. It needs to be said that important monetary decisions would not be made by the banks of issue but by the Federal Monetary (Issuing) Board. We are in favor of this board being appointed by the president from representatives of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic—not on the recommendation of governments, but on the recommendation of national councils.

According to the article "Toward Inflation in Three?," Minister Hoffmann supposedly remarked, when commenting on the republics' demand for three banks of issue, that "fighting inflation with three banks of issue would be immensely difficult." As this is a serious objection and as it leads the reader astray, we deem it necessary to react to it. The existence of one or three banks on issue has no bearing on the fight against inflation. The federal banks of issue operating in individual republics would not be able to put money into circulation arbitrarily but only to the extent, and according to the rules, determined by the Federal Issuing Board.

If we are to comment on this issue using the experience of the Paneuropean Society (which, in the interpretation of Dr. Peter Kresak, candidate of sciences, is indirectly recommended to us by Lloyd N. Culter, adviser to former U.S. President Carter—see NARODNA

OBRODA of 14 September), it would suffice for an efficient formation of our federal setup in the conditions of a market mechanism if the national (republican) bodies surrendered only so many of their sovereign rights [to the federation] as the European states did in favor of common European economic institutions. **We should surrender to the federal bodies that which we will have to surrender during the subsequent admission to common European bodies. The firmness and stability of our federal setup, of our federal state, does not depend on the extent of the federal bodies' powers but on the federal bodies' expediency and their contribution to the welfare and satisfaction of Czechs, Slovaks, and the other nationalities living in our republics.**

The conclusive advantageousness and usefulness of federal bodies coupled with the maximum independence of the republic is a greater bond of Czech-Slovak togetherness than an iron band reinforced by the constitutionally enshrined impossibility to secede. The greatest threat to the coexistence of Czechs and Slovaks in a federal state comes today from the overt but also covert attempts limit the sovereignty of republican bodies under the pretext of the need for strong powers of the federal bodies, for the macroeconomic regulation of aggregate demand, for conformity with the market, for uniform economic conditions, and the like. All this adds grist to the mill of Czech and Slovak separatists.

Matica Slovenska Dissatisfied With Language Bill

LD0210174590 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1100 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] [Announcer] The bill on the Slovak language which is being drafted continues to be a topic greatly debated in our country. Not a single day does by without us reading in newspapers or hearing from radio or television about various views on the bill. Gustav Valach [member of the Matica Slovenska] will now acquaint us with a statement adopted by the Matica Slovenska Committee:

[Valach] The Matica Slovenska Committee expresses its dissatisfaction with the lengthy drafting of the constitutional bill on the Slovak National Council on the Slovak language as the state and official language in the Slovak Republic. Nor is it satisfied with the draft bill—drafted and submitted by parties of the government coalition—because it does not express the natural right of the Slovak nation as a state-forming nation.

The bill on the Slovak language has its roots in the national and state sovereignty of the Slovak Republic. Delays in its drafting and discussion and attempts to bring into this statewide matter individual, party-political interests, worry the Matica Slovenska [Committee] and the entire public. The Matica Slovenska Committee fully supports the Matica-proposed draft bill on the Slovak language as the only state and official language on the territory of the Slovak Republic. The Slovak language is the most important integrating factor in the life of citizens of the Slovak Republic. It strengthens not only the Slovak but also the Czech-Slovak statehood. It is also beneficial for all the nationalities which live in Slovakia because it sets a clear duty for the Slovak Republic for their full integration into social life. At the same time it does not prevent the development of the cultures and languages of the nationalities.

The Matica Slovenska Committee asks the Slovak National Council to discuss—in committees and at a plenary session—the Matica Slovenska-proposed draft bill on the Slovak language in such a way that the bill will be adopted and promulgated by the 175th anniversary of the birth of Ludovir Stur, that is, by 27 October 1990. The Matica Slovenska Committee declares that it will support all events and manifestations held in support of the bill on the Slovak language. Thus, the committee itself convenes on 5 October 1990 at 1700 a nationwide rally in Slovak National Uprising Square in Bratislava, and asks local branches of Matica Slovenska to send representatives to this rally. It recommends at the same time to local branches and district committees of Matica Slovenska to organize for the same time their own meetings in support of the adoption and promulgation of the Slovak National Council bill on the Slovak language. Because this is very much above party and is of nationwide and statewide interest, the Matica Slovenska Committee turns to all deputies of the Slovak National Council and the leadership of all political parties and movements for the discussion and voting to result in a clear adoption of the bill on the Slovak language as the only state and official language on the territory of the Slovak Republic.

The sovereignty of the Slovak nation is incomplete without making its own language legal and it is no credit to its government and legislative institutions either.

Army Units Being Prepared for Gulf Operation

AU0110143090 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 28 Sep 90 pp 1,2

[Interview with Major General Jiri Jindra, commander of the Czechoslovak Army General Staff Foreign Relations Administration, by "(JET)" and "(TMA)"-signed reporters; place and date not given: "In Preparation for the Desert?"—first paragraph is MLADA FRONTA DNES introduction]

[Text] How should our Army participate in the collective international measures being taken against the aggressor in the Persian Gulf? Under the Czechoslovak flag or under the United Nations flag? This was the subject of our discussion with Major General Jiri Jindra, commander of the newly established Czechoslovak Army General Staff Foreign Relations Administration.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] This autumn the Czechoslovak rapid deployment battalion attached to the UN peacekeeping forces should, evidently, begin training in Cesky Krumlov. What is this battalion's task?

[Jindra] Article 42 of the UN Charter states that the Security Council can use air, naval, or ground forces to undertake any action which it considers necessary to maintain or renew international peace and security. In crisis situations the task of UN peacekeeping operations is to create a so-called "peace zone" or "segregation zone" between the opposing sides and, thus, provide politicians with scope in the search for a peaceful solution. Almost 500,000 men and women from 58 countries have taken part in UN peacekeeping operations since 1948. Some 744 of them have sacrificed their lives. Our unit will also join the UN forces in the near future.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] Could you tell us something more about this?

[Jindra] Our rapid deployment battalion should have around 300 men armed with infantry weapons. In selecting volunteers—career soldiers and conscripts—we require an excellent physical and psychological state of health, a knowledge of English, and specialist qualifications. We are mainly making use of Austrian experience—this country has 30 years of experience in UN peacekeeping operations and during that time, more than 28,000 Austrian soldiers have participated in them. So far, we only have experience in sending military observers—since March 1989, 20 of our officers have been military observers in Namibia; now we have six military observers in Angola and five officers are participating in the activity of the UN permanent mission in Korea.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] In view of the fact that UN forces have, so far, not intervened in the Persian Gulf, is another unit—specialized in anti-chemical warfare protection—being prepared in our country for this region?

[Jindra] Yes. It should have approximately 180-200 personnel, chemists, and medical staff who would be able to help the civilian population in the event of a chemical attack. Half the unit is made up of career soldiers and the other half comprises conscripts selected from volunteers on the basis of a professional and medical point of view.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] When will this unit be capable of intervening?

[Jindra] It should be prepared during the course of several weeks; its actual deployment, however, is dependent on many circumstances, among other things, on an official invitation from Saudi Arabia. Other Czechoslovak Army units should not be deployed in the Persian Gulf.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] Will this unit be equipped with the appropriate equipment?

[Jindra] We are doing our utmost to ensure that this unit is provided with the very best equipment our Army has. Of course, the situation is complicated by the fact that the unit will be deployed in unusual desert conditions. However, a number of organizations will assist us. For example, the Water Management Research Institute in Prague is offering us a water treatment plant equipped for use in the desert.

[MLADA FRONTA DNES] Our newspaper managed to acquire a rather different report from Hostvice near Prague where a group of medical workers is preparing for deployment in Saudi Arabia. According to statements made by the soldiers, the unit is very poorly equipped, for example, their trucks are in a very dilapidated condition. Apparently, the unit is currently incomplete, the preparations are chaotic, and are mostly only based on instructional films made sometime in the 1970's. Allegedly, even the question of payment for these soldiers has not been clarified.

Official, USSR Envoy Discuss Soviet Refugees

LD0410085190 Prague CTK in English 1954 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Prague Oct 3 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Lubos Dobrovsky today informed Soviet Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Boris Pankin that one Soviet refugee left on October 2 a refugee camp at Zastavka, South Moravia, allegedly out of his own will and accompanied by two officers, for an unknown place.

Mr. Dobrovsky, also a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, said that on the same day, a group of Soviet officers and Russian-speaking citizens tried to penetrate into the Zastavka refugee camp without permission with the aim of contacting the Soviet soldiers who asked for political asylum in Czechoslovakia. The soldier who left Zastavka in a car for an unknown place met with the Soviet citizens when on a walk. In addition to the two officers, he was accompanied to the car also by a man and a woman who claimed they are his parents.

Lubos Dobrovsky asked the Soviet ambassador for help in investigating the event and hoped that similar cases will not be repeated in the future. The Czechoslovak authorities are ready to make it possible for Soviet consular officials to meet with Soviet refugees. Ambassador Pankin promised to quickly inform Czechoslovakia of the results of investigations on the Soviet side.

Hungarian Deputy Duray Statement Criticized

AU0310144790 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 28 Sep 90 p 3

[Igor Cibula commentary: "Mr. Duray Has Disqualified Himself"]

[Text] On Wednesday [26 September] the Czechoslovak Press Agency issued an imprecise report that the representatives of political parties and movements of Hungarians living in Slovakia met at a roundtable in Prague. In fact, this was not a roundtable meeting, but an event held in the premises of the Hungarian Culture Center, where these parties and movements were supposed to present themselves to the Czech public. In this connection, some

observers asked with suspicion why this undertaking was organized on the territory of an institution belonging to the Hungarian Republic.

The CTK Prague office began its report with a statement made by Miklos Duray, a Federal Assembly deputy, that he considers "Mr. Meciar to be an illegitimate premier because he does not fit into the stream that should orient us toward Europe." It cannot just be a coincidence that only the communist daily PRAVDA published the statement without comment. It is also peculiar that even SLOVENSKY DENNIK—a daily of a coalition partner—reported nothing more than Duray's attacks against Meciar. In the daily VEREJNOST, the representative of the Hungarian Independent Initiative, Karoly Toth, said apropos the quoted statement that he considers Mr. Meciar "to be the representative of a positive national and social program and a counterweight to nationalist forces in Slovakia."

NARODNA OBRODA gave Mr. Duray scope to unrestrictedly present his opinions to the Slovak public. We deliberately did not want to take Mr. Duray on his words expressed in the past, which many readers now reproach us for. In the discussion he was granted an opportunity to answer questions pertaining to his opinion about Vitazoslav Moric, Slovak National Party chairman, as well as about Premier Vladimir Meciar. In comparison with his statements in Prague, the answers he gave during the above mentioned discussion sound, to say the least, as insincere. Who knows if his frankness was inspired just by the environment in which the meeting of the political parties and movements of Hungarians living in Slovakia was held.

Our Hungarian fellow citizens are lucky that Mr. Duray is not their only political representative with whom Premier Meciar's government will discuss problems concerning Hungarian-Slovak coexistence. The legitimacy of the Slovak premier is based on the democratic parliamentary elections, in which the Public Against Violence movement won the majority of votes and, because of that, it entrusted Mr. Meciar with forming a government. If the deputy from the Federal Parliament, Miklos Duray, places the legitimacy of the Slovak Republic premier in doubt, then his political movement, Coexistence-Egyutteles, should look for an other leader, if the name of the movement is to correspond to its program and if its adherents want to find partners on the Slovak side.

Vietnamese Protest Against Forced Deportation

AU0310102690 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 27 Sep 90 p 4

[CTK report: "Human Rights for All"]

[Text] Prague—An extremely tense situation arose yesterday afternoon at Ruzyne Airport in Prague prior to the departure of a large group of Vietnamese nationals—former employees of the 29 August Plants in Partizanske—for their homeland.

Approximately three hours prior to the takeoff of a special aircraft bound for Hanoi, close to 200 people—apart from the 100 people due to depart from Czechoslovakia—assembled in front of the airport building. They were workers and students from Prague, Plzen, and other places who chanted slogans and carried banners with inscriptions such as "Why collective guilt?," "Security for all," "Human rights for all," and so on. They were attempting to focus attention on the iniquity which, in their opinion, was being perpetrated against their fellow citizens.

What exactly was going on? The answer lies in Partizanske where exactly a month and one day ago a battle took place between Vietnamese workers and Czechoslovak citizens. There were several injuries on both sides. A rather antagonistic atmosphere later developed against Vietnamese in Partizanske. Therefore, the management of the 29 August Plants decided to speedily deport all the Vietnamese men employed by them without exception, including those who did not participate in the conflict. As soon as an aircraft had been charted, those to be deported were joined by approximately 40 women and girls who either wanted to or had to return home. The Partizanske footwear manufacturers took this step, despite the difficulties associated with ensuring the production flow, in order to placate the agitated public and also, allegedly, because the Vietnamese were harboring the guilty parties and were thus impeding the investigation. On the other hand, the Vietnamese maintain that an intergovernmental agreement between both states has been violated and that the conditions of a working contract guaranteeing them four years of residence in our country has not been adhered to. They are also demanding financial compensation for the period which they would otherwise be working in Czechoslovakia. Likewise, they want to be familiarized with the results of the investigation.

The atmosphere in front of the airport building was reminiscent of the calm before a storm with occasional flashes of lightning. The group of Vietnamese awaiting their flight was separated not only by a road, but also by several uniformed airport security personnel with dogs. One hour prior to their departure, the majority of the involuntary Vietnamese passengers were admitted into the departure lounge. One of the airport employees gave an explanation to a CTK reporter. He referred to unfortunate experiences from the past when some Vietnamese played tricks with passports and luggage. It is also no secret that an undetermined number of Vietnamese who refuse to return home are moving about Czechoslovakia and are concealing themselves wherever they can.

Jeszenszky Remarks on Iliescu's UN Speech

LD0410110390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0500 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky by Gyorgy Bolgar from the UN General Assembly session in New York; date not given—recorded]

[Text] Japan is willing to give financial support to Hungary because of the rising oil prices, and taking up diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia was put on the agenda. Geza Jeszenszky talked about these issues, among others, at the session of UN General Assembly; he also met 25 of his foreign colleagues.

As he said in his statement, and in his speech yesterday in the General Assembly, he also made an impromptu statement about the fact that the conflicts of the Central and Eastern European countries are not legitimate [toervenyszeruek]. He was motivated to say this by the atmosphere of some of his recent meetings and the promising statements of certain politicians. I asked him: For example, do you mean the UN speech of Romanian President Iliescu?

[Jeszenszky] Yes, of course, one takes notice of the words of those speaking before oneself. I was very glad to realize the Romanian speech had a moderate tone and even if only on the level of generalities, they assumed obligations regarding the respect of European norms which, by all means, can be appreciated and worth taking note of.

Jeszenszky Gives Interview Before Leaving UN

LD0410132790 Budapest MTI in English 1113 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, October 4 (MTI)—The West European countries ensured their sympathy and assistance to the new Hungary, and the neighbouring countries voiced their readiness to prevent minority conflicts, said Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky in New York.

The foreign minister attended the United Nations General Assembly, and the meeting of foreign ministers of the countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), held in New York.

Prior to leaving New York, the foreign minister gave an interview to Hungarian journalists, including MTI's correspondent.

The minister, who addressed the General Assembly session on Wednesday, said that, improvising in his speech in view of the experiences of the past days, he voiced his conviction that it was not according to law for conflicts to come about between countries what are becoming free. "In this respect, we experienced promising signs, and statements, from the part of our neighbours. They declare their readiness to prevent conflicts related to the minorities. This also applies to the speech of Romanian President Ion Iliescu, who, although on a general level, accepted an obligation to ensure the minority rights."

Mr Jeszenszky's talks with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko included cooperation in the enforcement of the minority rights, including those of the ethnic Hungarians in Carpathian-Ukraine. "We had earlier discussed the issue in Budapest, and the plans were made concrete during the visit of President Arpad Goncz to the Ukraine. There is now a good chance to reach an agreement in the course of this year", Mr Jeszenszky said.

"Regarding the Soviet Union, we naturally are interested in democratic transformation in that country, and strive to safeguard cooperation with the central government. At the same time, we cannot fall behind the decentralization process experienced there, as one role of the member republics is on the rise, and the Ukraine, our neighbour, is particularly important for us.

The talks with Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal al Sa'ud, the Saudi foreign minister, were the first official contacts between the two countries. It seems possibilities are extremely favourable at present to develop relations, Mr Jeszenszky said.

On Wednesday evening, the foreign minister, speaking to leading American businessmen, discussed Hungary's situation, and the investment possibilities. Mr Jeszenszky is to leave New York on Thursday evening, central European time.

Goncz, Antall Attend German Embassy Celebration

LD0410125890 Budapest MTI in English 1051 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 3 (MTI)—On Wednesday [3 October], the day of German unity, Ambassador Alexander Arnot gave a reception in Budapest on Wednesday.

The reception was attended by Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, Jozsef Antall, prime minister, Gyorgy Szabad, speaker of parliament, heads of the diplomatic corps accredited to Hungary, and senior representatives of Hungary's political life.

Soviet Airborne Unit Leaves Sarmellek

LD0410145990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpts] This morning the Sarmellek airborne regiment of the Soviet Southern Army Group left its base. Emil Ekler reports:

[Ekler] At the Soviet military airport of Zala County, Brigadier General Aleksandr Gusev, commander in chief of the Air Force of the Southern Army Group, in the presence of British, U.S., and Italian military attaches is saying farewell to the personnel of 17 MiG-29 fighter planes. The same number of planes left Hungary on 1 October. [passage omitted] As of today there are no more Soviet planes in Sarmellek after 28 years.

Goncz Speaks to IZVESTIYA on Concerns

LD0410091290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] According to Arpad Goncz, a greater danger in Hungary than that of anti-Semitism is that of people looking to the past for the model of the future because of the present difficulties. The president of the Republic was speaking to the Soviet Government paper, IVESTIYA. As he said, the radical transformation of the economic structure will be much more painful than the political change.

Foreign Trade Minister Details Economic Strategy

LD0410104290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Report on news conference with Bela Kadar, minister for international economic relations, by correpsondent Andras Domany; place and date not given]

[Text] Minister Bela Kadar promised to give a briefing on Hungary's foreign economic strategy. However, what he said was—I think—less than this. Rather, he just drew attention to certain important things. For example, next year traditional industry must definitely achieve a significant growth in exports to the West because agriculture can only play a smaller role because of damage from the drought. There must be growth in exports to the West because, despite the transfer to dollar accounting with CEMA countries, a very significant drop in trade can be expected.

According to the minister, in any case, in the future our determining foreign trade partners will be united Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Italy, as it were, the territory of the one-time Holy Roman Empire. The role of the Soviet Union depends on energy shipments and this is where the uncertainty lies.

Furthermore, according to the minister for international economic relations the forint should be devalued again. This last happened in February and Hungarian inflation since then has accelerated more than in the Western partner countries. Thus, due to the unchanged exchange rate, the competitiveness of Hungarian goods is worsening. True, the National Bank and the Finance Ministry—moreover, also the IMF—oppose this. They consider curbing inflation and balancing payments to be more important.

According to Bela Kadar, however, strict financial policy should be applied selectively. The fight against inflation should not result in the foreign political relations of the country falling apart. Next year, despite the problems in agriculture and the oil purchases caused by the Iraqi crisis, a surplus of $1 billion in export surplus must be attained. There will surely be much strong debate about these questions (?within) the government.

The minister also spoke about the fact that all export subsidies cannot be quickly eliminated, mainly in agriculture.

According to Bela Kadar, the figure of approximately 400 people to represent Hungarian foreign trade abroad is not at all too large. There is a need for the representations because instead of a few dozen large enterprises, several thousand small ones are exporting and importing. The representatives working abroad do not have to make deals as in the old days, but they perform services, they brief the Hungarian enterprises making an appearance on the foreign market.

Government Urges Privatization of Agriculture

LD0510020990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpt] The government has been in session since this morning. Gabor Bankuti reports on what was said.

[Bankuti] First, I should like to report on the statement by the government spokesman. The government supports the formation of an entrepreneurial-type of agriculture based on private property. For this, it urges the privatization of agriculture. In order to accelerate this, in harmony with the resolution of the Constitutional Court, it will submit the law on sorting out landed property to parliament, as well as the law regulating the formation of cooperatives by proprietors. The government is still not renouncing the compensation of previous owners. Accordingly, it wishes to settle the rightful demands of the landowners, in the framework of a new law. The spokesman's statement emphasizes that the government will take action against those who intend to use the decision of the Constitutional Court to intimidate those who wish to undertake entrepreneurial activity in agriculture. [passage omitted]

SZDSZ Official Queried on Privatization Program

AU0510085290 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 28 Sep 90 p 13

[Report on interview with Marton Tardos, expert of the Alliance of Free Democrats (SZDSZ), by unidentified NEPSZAVA reporter; place and date not given: "Deputies' Opinions on Privatization—Actions Are Delayed"—first paragraph is NEPSZAVA introduction]

[Excerpts] Undoubtedly, the privatization of our national wealth is the central issue of the Hungarian economy. So far, parliament has adopted only the so-called pre-privatization program. There are, however, tough debates about the entire circle of privatization among the legislators, experts, and the public, like the issue of agricultural lands, for example. Marton Tardos answered the NEPSZAVA questions on his views concerning the government's privatization program.

[NEPSZAVA] Will the government's privatization program enable the privately owned enterprises and economic units to function efficiently and competitively on a European level?

[Tardos] The law on the privatization of commercial and service enterprises only refers to a narrow circle of the necessary privatization. At the same time, on the issues of privatization, some representatives of the government parties have behaved in a controversial way so far. For example, these people claimed that the well-prepared enterprise sales, like the partial privatization of the Tungsram and IBUSZ [Touring, Money Changing, Traveling, and Shipping Co. Ltd.] companies, were unjustified sellouts. [passage omitted]

[NEPSZAVA] Do you regard it as possible and honest to restore the agricultural lands to their former owners, while other former owners could expect some insignificant compensation at the most?

[Tardos] Reprivatization, or the restoration of the rights of owners prior to the nationalization wave, is not an unjustified demand. It is, however, impossible to carry out such a reorganization 45 years after the nationalization. Moreover, in my opinion, every such attempt would result in more trouble than advantages. Reprivatization only carried out among the former landowners and smallhodlers would also lead to similar problems; furthermore, it would also greatly offend the interests of many citizens employed in the crisis-ridden agricultural sector, people who did not own land before. [passage omitted]

[NEPSZAVA] Generally, do the foreign investors see enough attraction in Hungary to invest their money here and to bring modern technology and economic management methods into Hungary?

[Tardos] Western investments can also guarantee new technology, enterprise management expertise, and favorable trade channels for our products. I think that the Hungarian economy cannot start growing without considerable foreign capital investments. Thus, we must do everything in our power to make the Hungarian market attractive to serious foreign investors. [passage omitted]

Welfare Ministry Official on Status of Homeless

AU0410075190 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 29 Sep 90 p 7

[Report on interview with Zoltan Lackner, newly appointed commissioner at the Welfare Ministry by Nogradi; place and date not given: "What Is the Crisis Managing Office Good for?—Night Shelter, Daily Warming Room"—first paragraph is NEPSZAVA introduction]

[Excerpts] How many people among our compatriots have no roof over their head and are living a miserable life? What will happen to them? Perhaps Zoltan Lackner will be able to answer these questions.

[Lackner] We do not have reliable statistics, and, just like everyone else, we see the misery of these people. The fact that we opened a Crisis Managing Office approved by the government which will function under the direct control of the Welfare Ministry shows our intention to help. We have the intention and the expertise to coordinate the issue of poverty, but the ministry, or the government struggling with very serious economic problems, are, in themselves, unable to quickly alleviate the problems.

[Nogradi] What can the ministry and the government do?

[Lackner] The aforementioned office received 30 million forints for this purpose, and we have already begun distributing the funds. [passage omitted]

[Nogradi] Do you have any information about the number of homeless people and about their identities?

[Lackner] We estimate that there are about 10,000 homeless in Budapest, and an increasing number of such people in the other cities. Unfortunately, no decrease in this number is expected in the near future, because the number of poor people, unemployed, and refugees is growing by the day. There is, however, a large concentration of such people in Budapest, and there are now people of all ages among them. Most of these people are men, many of them divorced and abandoned by their families. [passage omitted]

Parties Urge Clean Second-Round Elections

LD0410203590 Budapest MTI in English 1752 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Budapest, October 4 (MTI)—Hungary's six parliamentary parties have committed themselves to an avoidance of mud-throwing before the second round of local elections on October 14.

The statement they adopted on Thursday says that it is in the common interest of all the parties for the turnout not to take a downturn in the second round, and for the new local governments to be elected by as many citizens as possible.

The parties agreed that another joint responsibility would be to ensure that the new local governments did not suffer irreparable damage from the election campaign.

The six parliamentary parties, joining an appeal by Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic, called upon their organizations, members and supporters to set principles against principles and arguments against arguments in both national and local political affairs, and abstain from disparaging other parties and their candidates, leaders and members, from discrediting people, and from any propaganda attributing dishonourable intentions and unfairness to their opponents.

The parties agreed that their local organizations would join in condemnation of any posters and leaflets found without an identifiable source.

Start of Presidential Election Campaign Reported

LD0510054390 Warsaw PAP in English 2235 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct 4—The presidential compaign has begun throughout Poland, being mainly manifested in the formation of electoral coalitions and support for Lech Walesa.

A resolution of the Coordinating Council of the Centre Agreement set up a committee for Lech Walesa's presidential campaign with Przemyslaw Hniedziewicz heading the 41-strong team.

At the initiative of the regional office of the Centre Agreement Walesa's electoral committee has been set up in the north-eastern town of Bialystok.

A similar committee composed of representatives of the Solidarity regional board, Coalition of Citizens Committees and regional office of the Centre Agreement was set up in the south-eastern town of Przemysl a few days ago.

The Provisional Presidium of the Catholic Laity Union formed Walesa's electoral office in the central town of Czestochowa.

The Fighting Solidarity's candidate for president, Kornel Morawiecki, outlined for PAP his electoral programme saying in part:

"Our goal is to overcome the effects of the past totalitarian system and remnants of communism which hinder our return to fully civilized societies. We are also fighting for a full and authentic independence and for a check on economic recession."

Rules for Nomination of Presidential Candidates

LD0410084790 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1853 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] From the moment the decree issued by the Sejm speaker regarding the presidential election is published in the journal of laws—this should take place in the next few days—there will remain 20 days for the nomination of presidential candidates. This law applies to political and social organizations, and to the electorate, although in each case the submission must be backed by the personal signatures of at least 100,000 voters.

Walesa Advisers Announce Program Foundations

LD0410203990 Warsaw PAP in English 1748 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 4—The team of advisers to Solidarity Chairman Lech Walesa today announced it was being guided the following ideological and programmatic premises:

Poland needs full democracy and political pluralism and a departure from the monopolistic strivings of only one social orientation.

The country needs a social market economy based on fast privatization of property, also starting from grass roots level, and a balancing of monetary-economic rigors with effective social policy.

Poland needs an agrarian policy securing food for city dwellers and fully civilized living conditions for the rural population.

There is need to overcome apathy and doubts of a part of society by examining and gradually satisfying diverse needs of different regions and professions, by stirring hope for improvement in a foreseeable future.

Poland needs a state of law in which law can only be changed by legislative bodies set up to this end.

Social peace and political culture cannot hamper a thorough change in the system enforced upon Poland after the war and personnel changes, but personnel policy should not be guided by revenge and new discrimination but justice and professional competence.

Poland's relations with its great neighbours, Germany and Russia, should be at least as good as those between the two. All of Poland's relations with its neighbours should be incorporated in an all-European system of security with U.S. participation.

Walesa Holds First Electoral Campaign Meeting

LD0510015590 Warsaw PAP in English 2218 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Gdansk, Oct. 4—Lech Walesa held a press conference and a meeting with farmers in the Luzino Village, Gdansk Province, today.

Spokesman for the Solidarity leader Andrzej Drzycimski described the meeting as the first one in Walesa's presidential campaign and one aimed to show that it is possible to make society more active, to make it share the responsibility for the country's problems.

Most of the questions asked by both newsmen and farmers concerned Walesa's presidential programme.

Walesa said in part:

I was first to announce my decision to run for president. Now let my opponents make the first move as concerns programmes.

It is bad to initiate economic programmes and then to depart from them. It is good that inflation has been quenched but it is a bad thing we have recession and a decline of agriculture. Farmers must have influence on the agricultural policy. The greatest chances to handle the crisis in a short time exist in agriculture and privatization.

If I lose, you will lose, too, because I want to pull you to where you are absent. That is why I have quarelled with my friends, to allow a flow of ideas.

The campaign will go smoothly. I hope to win easily in the whole country, Walesa stated.

Walesa declared himself as a supporter of a referendum on the fundamental issues of a political system.

When a system is being changed, he said disappointed with the slow pace of reforms, many gaps appear. I proposed to rule by decrees at such a time because the old law has to be changed but that requires time. Meanwhile problems emerge that have to be solved fast.

Speaking about some problems connected with the postulated reorientation of the national economy towards agriculture, Walesa pointed to the chances that food surpluses may provide in trade with the Soviet Union.

As usual Walesa was sceptical about the problem of unemployment. In a country of so many shortages, unemployment is impossible, he stated.

Asked about his party affiliation, Walesa said he belongs to no party nor does he identify himself with any. I am everywhere, he said, although I am closest to Christian parties. I think that after the election it will be necessary to declare one's affiliation.

In reply to the question on his plans for foreign visits, Walesa said he has got invitations for ten-year travels. He confirmed he plans to go to Taiwan but the date has not been fixed yet.

Kuron: Walesa's Election Would Be Bad for Poland

PM0410083490 Paris LE FIGARO in French 2 Oct 90 p 6

[Interview with Labor Minister Jacek Kuron, by Jean-Louis Validire; place and date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Validire] What is your opinion of Lech Walesa's desire to become Polish president?

[Kuron] I cannot answer this question outside the context created by Walesa's decision. He announced his candidacy a long time ago. It was then exploited to exert a number of pressures on the government in the form of demands. Walesa himself never said that he supported these demands. But he allows their authors to believe so. We have behind us a year of great sacrifices requested from the Polish people. Living standards have fallen sharply. Society accepts this, even though this situation does create dissatisfaction that is exacerbated by someone (Lech Walesa—LE FIGARO editor's note) who promises to accelerate the reforms.... Obviously people would rather be told that their situation will improve than hear appeals for stringency. This is why I believe that Lech Walesa's election would be a bad solution for the country.

[Validire] How do you explain the fact that the Poles, who accept sacrifices, are at the same time fascinated by Lech Walesa?

[Kuron] Walesa's strength is that he is a kind of political and social seismograph. He knows what society wants to hear. He tells people what they want to hear in the way they want to hear it. I call that issuing dud checks.... We cannot draw level with Western Europe in a year. Everyone must realize that we must expect a 10-year lag. We are in the process of planting an orchard, and some of us are already complaining because we cannot see the trees bearing fruit at the end of a year!

[Validire] Do you believe that Walesa can really influence the course of events, as he claims when he criticizes the government's action?

[Kuron] Definitely not. In any case, Walesa is well aware that there is no real alternative. But the situation is such that he is supported by those who defend populist principles. His victory could give rise to false hopes that would put the social reforms in jeopardy.

[Validire] Are you not afraid that rising unemployment, linked to falling living standards, could jeopardize the reform policy that has been set in motion?

[Kuron] At the moment we do not have real unemployment. Of course statistics show that some eight percent of the active population are jobless. But there are large disparities according to age groups and cities. In the major cities unemployment is very low, whereas it reaches 15 percent in some areas. The problem is that the work force is not very mobile. We know that unemployment will increase, because there are surplus jobs in all factories. This is why we are trying to develop a fabric of small and medium enterprises and surrounding ourselves with all possible kinds of assistance, by signing—as I did recently with the French labor minister—accords that will result in economic initiatives.

Mazowiecki Announces His Presidential Candidacy

LD0410190290 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Remarks by Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki on 4 October; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I wish today to reply to the question that has been asked of me for many weeks now. This is the question of whether I will express my agreement to be a candidate for the office of president of the Republic, if such a candidacy will be put forward. This question is one I have considered for many hours, for many days and weeks. It is even generally regarded that I thought for too long.

But this is a very difficult question for me personally and generally. Personally, by virtue of the circumstances in which I have to reply to it. In general, by virtue of the great responsibility of this office. Now, the time to reply has come and I wish to give this reply today. Briefly, after much thought and consideration of all the circumstances, I have decided to express agreement if my candidacy will be put forward.

It is necessary to go forward. One cannot turn back from the road chosen by Poland, expensively bought through this [last] year. One cannot expose her to danger. One must go forward better, faster, more surely, but along this and not another road. It is necessary that Poland now has a great opportunity in today's world and in Europe, occupy it's dignified place, of an intelligent country, a country based on Christian values, a country of people who are generous and tolerant in relation to each other, a country that coexists well with all of its neighbors. This line and these values are the ones I wish to defend.

From these motifs arises my decision. I make it with a full feeling of modesty. I know that there are many more worthy for this office. I make it because the historical situation has positioned me in precisely such a place.

That is all that I can say today about the difficulty of this decision. There will be time on another occasion to speak about a wider and fuller program. Today, I wish to just convey to all of you who are listening to me my best, mortal wishes.

ROAD Supports Mazowiecki for President

AU0410102890 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 1 Oct 90 pp 1, 2

[Grzegorz Sieczkowski report: "ROAD Is Not Changing its Mind"]

[Text] "The Citizens Movement Democratic Action [ROAD], is proposing Tadeusz Mazowiecki's candidature, because Poland needs a president whose authority, decisive action, and political wisdom will guarantee democratic order, lawful government, stable conditions for economic endeavor, and Poland's rightful place in the international arena," states the declaration adopted during the second meeting of ROAD's Founding Council, which took place on 30 September at the Warsaw Polytechnic.

ROAD still wants the upcoming parliamentary elections to take place before April 1991, at the latest. The movement supports the proposal for a mixed electoral law that has been presented by the Citizens Deputies Club and which reconciles "the requirement for broad representation with the necessity of having a stable parliament." ROAD stated that it is "worried by the attempts to prolong the life of the present Sejm beyond the required minimum."

The members of ROAD's Founding Council also issued a statement on German reunification and the role of local government. The bill on the protection of unborn life passed by the Senate, was also discussed, although no official position was adopted. Judging from the response at the meeting, the movement will oppose the law.

In the coming two to three weeks ROAD will complete work on the salient points of its political program, but the complete program will only be ready mid-January 1991, in time for the movement's congress.

Discussion on the upcoming presidential elections took up the major share of the discussion time at the meeting. We are disappointed by the way our movement is developing, but we hope that the requirement to collect 100,000 signatures will stimulate and galvanize ROAD. The generally held belief that Lech Walesa is bound to win is acting to our disadvantage, stated Jan Litynski.

Statements made by other participants reinforced Litynski's view. Workers everywhere are enthusiastically welcoming Walesa and Jaroslaw Kaczynski. We must work on a different image for Tadeusz Mazowiecki, said a ROAD activist from Poznan.

At the moment we lack arguments why we want Mazowiecki to be president, said Wladyslaw Frasyniuk, but Andrzej Szczypiorski disagreed with this view, stating that if one does not believe in victory then one is bound to lose. He called on the members to overcome this lack of faith and expressed the hope that the Tadeusz Mazowiecki Election Committee would comprise not only intellectuals but would include workers and farmers.

The majority of those present claimed that the election campaign should in the main be prepared by specialists.

On the national level, the campaign will be overseen by ROAD's National Election Committee and this committee will comprise ROAD and Forum of the Democratic Right members. It was stated that these people are to be the "people of the next president." Similar committees are to be set up on the regional and district level. The election campaign will also be directed by electoral task forces on various levels. Each such task force will have a financial and program commission.

After the meeting, we asked Zbigniew Bujak what he would do if Tadeusz Mazowiecki decided not to stand for the presidency. "We shall propose somebody else who would go on to win," he replied.

Morawiecki Remarks on Presidential Candidacy

LD0410101990 Warsaw PAP in English 2306 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Sczecin, Oct. 3—Leader of the Freedom Party and founder of the Fighting Solidarity Kornel Morawiecki, who is going to run for Poland's president, said during a meeting here today:

If I reach millions of people who are against communism, manage to overcome the aversion of mass media which are monopolized and prevent me from presenting my arguments, then in discussion I will beat both Walesa and Mazowiecki and win the elections.

If I lose the presidential election, I will fight to make my party win parliamentary elections, Morawiecki stated.

Real Politics Union Appoints Candidate

LD0410130590 Warsaw PAP in English 1048 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 4—The Warsaw branch of the Real Politics Union last Wednesday [3 October] decided to appoint its candidate for president of Poland.

The candidate is chairman of the union Janusz Korwin-Mikke.

Lodz Journalist Plans To Run for President

LD0410093690 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Waldemar Trajdos from Lodz, who is also the editor in chief of GLOS NARODOWY, has put himself forward as a candidate for the office of president. At the same time, he protested against the information blockade by Polish television.

Kozakiewicz Appoints State Electoral Commission

LD0410205290 Warsaw PAP in English 1801 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct 4—Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz appointed the State Electoral Commission today. In line with the law the commission is composed of judges of the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Tribunal and the Main Administrative Court, five from each, chosen by their presidents.

The comission will form itself at its first meeting tomorrow.

Sejm Committee Adopts Trade Union Property Bill

LD0410063290 Warsaw PAP in English 1834 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 3—The Sejm legal committee today adopted a bill providing for the return of the property of trade unions and social organizations which had been confiscated under the martial law of Dec. 13, 1981.

The bill provides for the return of the confiscated property or, if the property cannot be returned due to damage or loss, for the compensation or the lost property calculated in current prices.

Solidarity National Commission Meeting Summarized

LD0510091190 Warsaw PAP in English 2305 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Gdansk, Oct. 4—The Solidarity National Commission ended here today its two-day meeting which on Wednesday supported Lech Walesa's candidature for the presidential office and today discussed problems connected with the social policy of the state and the union.

The meeting focused on the question of unemployment, the lowest wages, social welfare and protection of the working conditions.

If the Solidarity is going to take part in parliamentary elections, the meeting stated, it has to offer its own social programme. The union cannot accept a shift in the social policy from the possibility of increasingly better earnings to growing welfare nor approve a constant growth of the sphere of poverty.

The National Commission adopted a stand on unemployment which includes its expectations pinned on the state authorities and tasks for the union chapters.

The commission demands from the authorities, among other things, corrections to be made in the economic policy aimed at unblocking economic development so that an authentic labour market is formed which would be a chance, and not a threat for workers. It also expects restructuring programmes which would make changes on the labour market result from reforms and not recession.

In general, the commission demands state intervention in fighting unemployment and offers an active cooperation of the union in this regard.

The stand recommend the union chapters to prepare for an active struggle against unemployment.

It is planned to set up regional union labour offices of a consulting character, and wherever possible for financial and organizational reasons to run union labour agencies and form assistance funds for the unemployed.

The commission adopted a resolution on minimum wages and prospective family wages, that is ones allowing to support a whole family and not only an employee.

As concerns a bill on social welfare which had already been preliminarily considered by the Sejm (lower house), the Solidarity commission agreed it is a modern law and raised no reservations.

The commission adopted a package of stands on protection of working conditions in which it demands that the state authorities should ratify 13 conventions of the International Labour Organization (some of them were initiated by Poland but have never been ratified), work out a bill on protection of man in the working environment, and change the insurance system.

The National Commission approved a draft law on collective labour contracts in enterprises worked out by union experts.

The next meeting of the Solidarity National Commission is scheduled for November 7.

Senate Speaker Supports Solidarity 80 Complaint

LD0510052990 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1615 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] I fully share your view that the refusal to register your union is deeply unfair, declared Senate speaker Professor Andrzej Stelmachowski in a letter addressed to the chairman of the Coordinating Commission of NSZZ [Independent Self-Governing Trade Union] Solidarity '80. At the

same time I wish to inform you that a legislative intiative has already been undertaken which should lead to the repeal of the 1982 law on trade unions, containing restrictions which, today, seem dreadfully anachronistic.

Andrzej Stelmachowski's letter was in answer to a complaint by the National Coordinating Commission of NSZZ Solidarity '80 sent to the Senate speaker after yet another refusal by the Voivodship Court in Warsaw to register this union. NSZZ Solidarity '80 demands to be registered on the basis of the union's statute of 1980.

CSFR Leaders Attend German Unity Celebrations

LD0310220990 Warsaw PAP in English 2028 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 3—In connection with the unification of Germany, FRG ambassador to Poland Guenter Knackstedt gave a reception here today.

The reception was attended by Poland's President Wojciech Jaruzelski, Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz, Deputy Speaker of the Senate Andrzej Wielowieyski, members of the government, senators, deputies, representatives of political parties and social organizations, scientists and artists.

Present were also members of the diplomatic corps headed by their dean, Papal Nuncio Archbishop Jozef Kowalczyk.

During the reception, Knackstedt told PAP: "As of today Germany is bigger but at the same time bigger is its responsibility. This particularly refers to our new neighbour—Poland. For me as an ambassador of the new big Germany it is clear that we must make this new neighbourhood a good and fruitful one."

On the same occasion, head of the Konrad Adenauer foundation in Warsaw Goest Thiemer gave cocktails at the foundation's mission here. Present were deputy speaker of the Senate Andrzej Wielowieyski and head of the office of the Council of Ministers Jacek Ambroziak.

Walesa Sends Letters to Kohl, Von Weizsaecker

LD0410090490 Warsaw PAP in English 2023 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Gdansk, Oct. 3—Lech Walesa sent today, on the day of German unification, a letter to FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker expressing satisfaction over the historic fact of the unification of Germany which will "become a milestone on the road towards a new, common Europe."

"Remembering our meeting in Gdansk in May, I am convinced and full of hope that the close neighbourhood of the united Germany and Poland will mean direct cooperation, direct contacts between our societies and friendship," Walesa wrote.

Also today Walesa sent a letter to Chancellor Helmut Kohl stating in part:

"The unification of Germany is a joyous event in the history of your nation. We hope it will be a step towards a common Europe in which each nation will find a place for itself.

"Poles are full of hope for a good neighbourhood, successful cooperation in all spheres, mutual understanding of problems and assistance in their solving."

Mazowiecki Receives Message From Chancellor Kohl

LD0410093190 Warsaw PAP in English 2135 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 3—In a letter addressed to Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Chancellor Helmut Kohl wrote in part:

Our country wants to see its newly gained national unity to promote peace worldwide and to accelerate unification of Europe.

At the same time, we admit moral and legal obligations stemming from German history.

We have yet to take important steps. Together with our partners in the European Community, we want to end the setting up of a common internal market by 1992.

The European Community will be open to close cooperation with other states of Europe. We want to contribute particularly to creating closer ties between the European Community and countries of central-eastern and south-eastern Europe that gained freedom and embarked upon the road of political, economic and social reforms.

We come out for the process of security and cooperation in Europe.

We come out for preparing a basic declaration of members of both European pacts, through which they will consolidate their commitments to give up the use of force and start new partnership in building lasting and equitable peaceful order in Europe.

Globally, we will also come out for disarmament agreements. Countries of Africa, Asia and America can count on solidarity of united Germany also in the future.

The overcoming of the East-West confrontation opened up also new vistas for far going pursuance of noble goals of the UN Charter. The events of the last weeks showed what a threat would be posed to peace worldwide if principles of the UN Charter were not observed.

After gaining the unity of Germany, the Federal Republic of Germany is ready to take part in the future in the UN efforts to preserve and restore peace also by participation of its armed forces. We will create intrastate premises necessary for this purpose.

At the start of the last decade of our century, we see new opportunities for the world that solves its problems by conciliation and understanding and remains faithful to principles of international law.

Skubiszewski Sees No Threat in German Unification

LD0410090790 Warsaw PAP in English 2120 GMT 3 Oct 90

[By PAP correspondent Adolf Reut]

[Text] New York, Oct. 3—"German unification consolidates European unification, and European unification lies in our interest. Thus, there is convergence of our interests as regards this issue," Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski told PAP.

"It is the beginning of something new in Polish-German relations. Our common interests and strivings are numerous, and this should prevail," he added.

"We cannot forget about past events but this cannot be a decisive factor for the present times," Skubiszewski said.

"The present day creates a great chance through unification. We are the most important eastern neighbour of Germany. One can do much in this field, and we have been acting in this direction for long now. We have a programme which is, as I can see convergent to what German politicians say. The main current is the use by Poland of this great chance that we will have a very rich, very strong state on our western border, one that is willing to cooperate with Poland, and we also strongly want this cooperation," Skubiszewski continued.

"I am of the opinion that this day should not threaten anybody but should give hope," he concluded.

Defense Ministry Seeks Gift of GDR Tanks, Planes

LD0410203790 Warsaw PAP in English 1729 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct 4—In a memorandum conveyed to the German authorities, Poland expressed her interest in obtaining, free of charge, some types of weapons and military equipment of the GDR Army in connection with its dissolution after the unification of Germany.

Poland's Ministry of National Defense said that Poland was interested in obtaining T-72 tanks, MiG-29 aircraft, antiairforce and antitank launchers and missiles, combat vehicles, combat helicopters and ships, corvettes and torpedo boats.

The memordandum stressed that the handing over of the equipment would be a significant factor for the consolidation of confidence, security and cooperation between Poland and the united Germany and would well serve the shaping of the practical aspect of the Polish-German community of interests. It would also be understood as a concrete means of building confidence between neighbouring countries in the united Europe.

Skubiszewski Summarizes Talks With Mazowiecki

LD0410103990 Warsaw PAP in English 2250 GMT 3 Oct 90

[By PAP correspondent Adolf Reut]

[Text] New York, Oct. 3—Stability in Poland is the fundamental condition for our success in the world and maintenance of our strong positon gained over the past 12 moths, Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski told a PAP New York correspondent summing up his numerous meetings with heads of diplomacy from many countries who attended the 45th session of the UN General Assembly.

Minister Skubiszewski presented his impressions from the meetings of Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki had held in New York, he said in part:

During a talk with U.S. President George Bush Prime Minister Mazowiecki touched upon the question of reduction of the Polish debt which provoked an exchange of views. Although various possibilities are considered, as far as the United States is concerned no progress has been made here yet. The United States sees possibilities for some initiatives in this regard in Europe as European countries are Poland's main creditors.

Discussed were also losses sustained by Poland in result of the Persian Gulf crisis.

We talked a lot and in a businesslike manner about questions pertaining to security in Europe. President Bush was interested in our relations with the Soviet Union, in our initiative concerning specific measures with a view to withdrawing Soviet troops stationing in Poland. Discussed was also future of the Warsaw Treaty.

During Prime Minister Mazowiecki's meeting with Secretary of State of the Holy See Agostino Casaroli he talked about the political and economic situation in Poland.

I held a meeting with Japan's Minister of Foreign Affairs Taro Nakayama during which he talked mainly about economic cooperation. I pointed also to some strategic side of this cooperation and strategic importance of Japan's engagement in Central and Eastern Europe.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd was interested in the political situation in Poland.

There was some concern among my interlocutors, especially those from Western countries, lest development of democracy in Poland had too many negative sides and some destability [as heard] appeared.

I talked with Austria's Foreign Minister Alois Mock about the introduction of visas for Poles by Austria. We also touched upon the question of setting up, as part of institutionalization of the CSCE process, a centre for preventing conflicts and building confidence measures.

Poland Agrees To Purchase Crude Oil From Iran

LD0410160490 Warsaw PAP in English 1425 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 4—"Poland will buy about half a million tons of crude oil from Iran still this year," stated Poland's Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Marcin Swiecicki upon returning from Iran today, adding:

"During the talks with the Iranians we received their assurances that we would be able to purchase 2.5 to 3 million tons of oil next year, even more if we place the order early enough.

"This year's transaction will be reached on the basis of current world prices, that is $33-35 for the barrel which is 80 percent more than we paid for Middle East oil before the Gulf crisis," Swiecicki said.

Local Governments Urge Soviet Troop Withdrawal

LD0410093590 Warsaw PAP in English 2107 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Warsaw, Oct. 3—Chairmen of self-government provincial assemblies—participants in the founding meeting of the National Self-Government Assembly—sent today a statement to PAP in which they listed hardships resulting from the stationing of numerous Soviet military units in Poland, including often irreversible ecological losses, devastation of communal property and increased crime (violations of the law by Soviet soldiers and civilians).

In the document the representatives of local government asked the government and the Sejm, to possibly urgently and thoroughly verify legal settlements concerning the stationing of Soviet troops in this country and lead to their withdrawal from Poland as quickly as possible.

Senate Congratulates Bundestag on Unification

AU0410174690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1610 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—On opening its plenum session on Thursday, October 4, Romania's Senate adopted a telegram of congratulations to the Bundestag of Germany, which was reunited on October 3, 1990, which shows: "Romania's democratic Senate, reinstituted after more than four decades of communist dictatorship, expresses deep satisfaction at Germany's peaceful reunification and has the honor and the joy to convey you the friendliest congratulations and wishes of economic and social prosperity.

The Romanian people understand the importance of the historic act of October 3 as a similar destiny took them along the same path of the fight for national unity.

"We believe that the relations between our two countries will acquire further dimensions, determined by the hope to build a better world.

"May the fulfillment of the German people's aspirations contribute to the consolidation of peace within a united Europe, set on democratic, Christian principles."

Ministry Spokesman on Relations With Germany

AU0410195390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1808 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—The Romanian Government pays particular attention to the traditional Romanian-German friendship relations in the context of the impact of the two Germanies' unification in general, and of the basic principles of Romania's relations with unified Germany, taking action to adjust these relations to the requirements of the new stage, in concordance with the interests of our two countries and peoples, Teodor Melescanu, under-secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told a news conference, specifying that bilateral political, economic, technical-scientific, cultural and humanitarian relations are concerned. The legal basis of the Romanian-German relations and the consequences of the termination of contract liabilities of a number of the German Democratic Republic's companies that did business with Romania are of special interest for the Romanian side. Special steps have been taken by the Romanian party both in Bonn and in Berlin, for these issues to be approached with the German authorities. The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman also mentioned that on October 3, Romania's Embassy to Berlin turned into the Berlin "office" of Romania's Embassy to Bonn and that bilateral talks were held concerning the termination of the German Democratic Republic's membership of both the Warsaw Treaty and the Comecon [Council for Mutual Economic Assistance] in consequence of the unification.

Report on Presidential Envoy's Mission in Gulf

AU0410194990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1811 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—From 21 September Romulus Neagu, secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry and a cabinet member, toured the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar as Ion Iliescu's special envoy. He handed written messages from the Romanian president to the heads of the visited states, and to the leadership of the State of Kuwait, now in Saudi Arabia, Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary of State Teodor Melescanu told a news conference.

The aim of the tour was to promote Romania's relations with the Gulf states, also in politics and diplomacy, along the line of Romania's active contribution to the efforts that are made to defuse tension in the Gulf, and of finding solutions to the problems caused by the crisis to the national economy.

The talks covered the strengthening of bilateral relations in all fields, including through the establishment of diplomatic relations with Qatar and Saudi Arabia, to which the reaction was very favorable.

On the line of promoting and strengthening the bilateral relations and of solving the economic problems posed to Romania by the Gulf crisis, trade and economic cooperation actions were considered that will come true in the next period.

Report on Situation of Citizens in Iraq

AU0410195090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1801 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—The evacuation of the Romanian workers in Iraq continues, Under-Secretary of State Teodor Melescanu told the weekly press conference at the Foreign Ministry. From the total 3,055 experts who were in Iraq when the Gulf crisis broke out, he said, only 630 are still in that country, and they will be repatriated as soon as they get their exit visas.

With the approval of the Committee 661 a charter plane brought home another 130 persons on 2 October.

Since the new regulations in force in Iraq fail to meet the conditions for a normal supply of food and possibly medicines from local shops, steps were taken through Romania's permanent mission at the United Nations to the Committee 661 to get its approval for the necessary supplies.

Country Will Observe Committee 661 Decisions

AU0410213390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2020 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Consistent with its unequivocal stand on the Gulf crisis, Romania is resolved strictly to observe the decisions of the Security

Council's newly created Committee 661, which is known to have instituted procedural mechanisms implying the obligation of the U.N. members to get the committee's specific approval for air flights to evacuate foreigners from Iraq or for the dispatch of humanitarian aid in food and medicine.

Romania's extensive economic and commercial relations with Iraq, one result of which was the presence of 3,055 Romanian experts working on 14 cooperation ventures in Iraq at the start of the events, raised a host of problems in connection with the activity of the Committee 661. From the original total of 3,055 Romanian experts in Iraq, only 630 are still there. The Romanian Foreign Ministry and the Romanian Embassy in Baghdad applied to the Iraqi authorities for the repatriation without restrictions of all Romanians who want to leave. As a result of recent actions, the Iraqi party was reconfirmed its official commitment that they would be allowed to leave without restriction on request. For the repatriation of the latest 310 persons who had been issued exist visas committee 661 approved a charter flight on 2 October. A new application in to the Committee 661 was initiated through Romania's permanent mission at the United Nations to supply the Romanians still in Iraq and the embassy staff with food and medicines. The Romanian authorities are waiting for permission to deliver the supplies.

National Delegation Attends Strasbourg Meetings

Party Statement on Meetings

AU0410140390 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 23 Sep 90 p 1

[Undated "declaration" of the Press Department of the National Peasant Christian Democratic Party]

[Text] The session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe is held on 26 September-4 October in Strasbourg.

The government press in Romania has mentioned the fact that a delegation of the Romanian Parliament was invited by this forum to participate in discussion regarding our country's application to join the Council of Europe, on the basis of the development of the situation in Romania presented in Mr. Noereus' report.

The Press Department of the National Peasant Christian Democratic Party [PNT-cd] is authorized to make the following declaration:

As of January 1990, a continuous and steady campaign of denigration and calumny, of instigation and threats, and of actions of intimidation and aggression has been carried out against the PNT-cd; these actions culminated with the ransacking, disturbance, and robbery organized at the headquarters of the party by specially prepared commandos, on 14-15 June 1990.

The goal of those actions—that, as a matter of fact, was directed against the whole opposition in Romania, but primarily against the PNT-cd—was to reduce to silence every voice which contested or opposed the current leadership that belongs to the National Salvation Front. All possible efforts have been made and all possible means have been used to defeat and shove aside our party, and through the events provoked in June 1990, an attempt was made to eliminate the whole opposition embodied in various political parties, independent organizations, and the free press.

However, the completely unsatisfactory development of a democratic life in Romania, as well as the aforementioned events, provoked a reaction of unanimous disapproval and condemnation among governmental circles, reactions which completely blocked our country's ways of access to the economic and political bodies of the developed Western countries.

In this serious credibility crisis in which the current government managed to place itself, some brighter personalities of the Front proposed that new tactics should be adopted regarding the power's relations with the major traditional political parties of our country, as an attempt to ease the political situation and to establish a more relaxed atmosphere in the relations between these parties and the current regime.

Certain contacts between responsible personalities of the country's leadership and of the opposition have been made and possibilities for starting a dialogue have been opened.

The PNT-cd, seriously attached—just as in the past—to the ideals of freedom, justice, and truth, has always believed that the democratic and legal methods of approaching and seeking solutions to political problems through a frank and open dialogue are the only ways to solve the serious difficulties with which, now more than ever, our country is faced.

As mentioned in our declaration in the Parliament, in its relations with the current leadership, our party places itself in a "constructive opposition." Our party is ready to prove its complete willingness to participate in a dialogue if this dialogue is held in a frank atmosphere of good faith and of the partners showing courage to openly admit their mistakes and correct them through good deeds.

Unfortunately, however, the meeting and discussions that the PNT-cd leadership held with President Ion Iliescu have not gotten past the stage of vague probing and ambiguous intentions of national reconciliations expressed by the president. The discussion was not the kind that would clear the atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust that has accumulated between the government and the democratic opposition throughout this period.

Under these conditions, the PNT-cd believes that its parliamentarians can participate as individuals in the session of the parliamentary Assembly in Strasbourg, in

order to make contact with the representatives of certain Western democratic fora in order to improve Romania's current deteriorated image and, at the same time, to present our party's point of view regarding the domestic and international situation.

The PNT-cd Press Department

Delegation Returns 4 Oct

AU0410213890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2055 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Romania's parliamentary delegation returned Thursday [4 October] evening from Strasbourg where it attended the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Alexandru Barladeanu, Senate president and head of the delegation, reviewed in a press conference at the Otopeni Airport, the achievements of the delegation.

Although Romania's admission to the Council of Europe with special guest status was postponed until January 1991, the president of the Senate is of the opinion that "the wall of misunderstanding" raised between Romania and Europe through ill-will was strongly shaken by the Romanian delegation. "Different political opinions did not prevent us from judging things as Romanians, first of all, beyond partisan positions. I was happy to see that patriotic feelings have not disappeared" he said.

A delegation of the Council of Europe was shown to have been invited to Romania in November so as to get a real image of the democratization through contacts with all political formations in Romania.

On their diplomatic contacts, the Senate president assessed them as very positive in general. Friendly links have been restored with France' Senate and Assembly of Deputies. The French president, Francois Mitterrand, said during a brief meeting he was willing to further assist Romania.

Baranyi Statement Upon Return

AU0510103390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0940 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 5/10/1990—In a statement made on the return of the Romanian parliamentary delegation participant in the Strasbourg meeting, Mr. Francisc Baranyi, the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania representative in the delegation, said that a sooner access of Romania to Europe would be advantageous for the Hungarian minority, too. Xenophobia will disappear and, at the same time, with the "spiritualization" of borders, the inter-ethnical conflicts will diminish, he specified.

Although Romania has not been yet received in the Council of Europe—that question was adjourned until January 1991—there are real chances for that desideratum, all being only a procedure issue, he said.

Sandulescu Comments on Meeting

AU0510103390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0942 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 5/10/1990—In a statement made on the return of the Romanian parliamentary delegation participant in the Strasbourg meeting, Mr. I.V. Sandulescu, member in the delegation on behalf of the National Liberal Party, showed that the interviews and contacts in Paris with French officials and businessmen emphasized the substantial improvement of the Romanian-French relations. All of them had appreciated the positive role of the interviews with the Romanian parliamentarians regarding a better image of Romania in France, he said.

He specified that "all the members of the delegation had upheld that Romania should participate in the Council of Europe as an invited guest".

He considered that had the question concerning Romania's participation in that meeting as an invited guest been voted, Romania would have been accepted.

Nastase's Working Meetings in New York Reported

AU0310204590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1937 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/10/1990—Today, the Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase continued his working meetings with counterparts from Austria, Greece, Great Britain, San Marino and Spain. They showed interest in the recent developments in Romanian society.

The talks stressed the sides' mutual readiness for the development of bilateral relations and outlined the ways to intensify political dialogue and boost economic and trade exchanges. Special attention was given to the means of speeding up Romania's advent to European institutions, the EEC in particular, the inclusion of Romania into the Group of 24 "Phare" programme and the granting of Romania of special guest status. It was agreed that the measures taken by Romania's Parliament and Government transition to a market economy and the consolidation favour of democratic processes. [sentence as received]

The Romanian foreign minister also met Hans-Peter Fuerer, director of the Political Department of the Council of Europe's Secretariat, to whom he expressed his astonishment at certain actions of high functionaries of the secretariat, meant to give a distorted and one-sided view of Romania to the members of the Council and of its Parliamentary Assembly.

Nastase Backs Hungary on Minorities at CSCE

AU0310204490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1934 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/10/1990—Adrian Nastase, Romania's minister of foreign affairs, upheld at the

CSCE ministerial meeting in New York the proposal of his Hungarian counterpart on setting European standards for the treatment of minorities, and the calling of an extraordinary CSCE expert meeting in 1991 to examine the above problems. He mentioned that at the meeting in Copenhagen, Romania submitted a draft declaration concerning the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, precisely in order that generally acceptable norms be established in Europe in this domain. Romania's minister of foreign affairs reminded that by its recent initiative concerning Balkan security and cooperation forum, Romania proposed that a Balkan code of conduct be drawn up concerning ethnical affairs and the minorities, which could be extended to the whole CSCE zone.

Minister Adrian Nastase said that such questions could make the object of a special CSCE expert meeting in 1991, as it was proposed.

The Romanian minister also maintained the idea of a CSCE parliamentary "wing" and of a general European mechanism for the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Bilateral Cultural Agreements Signed With France

AU0410201790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1840 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Two agreements were signed in Paris between the Romanian and the French Governments, announced Teodor Melescanu under-secretary of state to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at a news conference. One of them refers to setting up a French Institute in Bucharest and three French culture centers in Cluj, Iasi an Timisoara, and a Romanian culture center in Paris. The possibility is also considered of other such centers to be opened in a number of French towns, in future.

The other document is a 1990-1992 Romanian-French program of cooperation in culture, education, science and technique. It includes support for Romania especially to build a state of law and pass to the market economy, to open broad possibilities of cooperation and staff training, to organize state-run institutions and manage the economy. The document pays special attention to the up-to-date many-sided training of the youth and to exchanges in which young people are involved. This is the first agreement concluded by France with a Central or East European country after the deep changes that took place of late in this part of the world, the spokesman specified.

IAEA To Inspect Cernavoda Nuclear Power Plant

AU0410101790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0920 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 4/10/1990—A group of experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are making a technical expertise to establish the measures to be taken so that deficiencies be removed and the security of the atomic energy plant at Cernavoda be ensured. Taking into consideration the compromises having been made during last years under the former leadership, the electric power department of the Ministry of Resources and Industry was forced to apply for that expertise so that works be resumed and made in complete security.

The mission of the experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency will conclude on October 12.

Foreign Ministry Press Release Condemns Hungary

AU0410212890 Bucharst ROMPRES in English 1940 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Certain aspects of the Romanian-Hungarian relations raised by Mr. Deputy Ioan Gavra in his question were covered by an answer given in the Senate on 27 September, in reply to an earlier question concerning the publication in Hungary—with the approval and in the translation of the President of Hungary, Arpad Goencz—of the book "Transylvania—Past and Present" by Endre Bajcsi-Zsilinszky, Foreign Ministry representative, Ion M. Anghel, minister adviser, head of the Legal Council, told the Assembly of Deputies on 4 October, a Foreign Ministry press release says.

It was then said that such gestures of the Hungarian side helped fanning revisionist and anti-Romanian Horthyist ideas of the early 40s at a time when the concepts of the new European civilization are asserted—with respect for the independence and sovereignty of states and their territorial integrity, friendship and cooperation on the basis of mutual respect.

As far as relations with Hungary are concerned, determination to reach normality which is dictated by the interests of the nation is Romanian Government policy. The government tries to build up mutual confidence which favors good neighborhood and cooperation.

Romanian Government representatives repeatedly rejected the use by the Hungarian state and government leaders of the instruments of the revisionist policy doomed by history for ever as a failure. They denounced the harmful impact on the normal course of bilateral relations of the obsessive resumption of the idea of frontier changes in the statements of Hungarian representatives.

The Romanian Foreign Affairs minister, Adrian Nastase, during the talks with his Hungarian counterpart in New York on 26 and 29 September clearly and firmly said that Romania had learned from experience and history to distinguish between statements and facts. Without ignoring statements that seem to favor good relations with Romania, actions like the publication of the book translated by President Arpad Goencz or the statements of the Hungarian foreign minister on Trianon cannot go unnoticed, the press release says. The Romanian foreign affairs minister told Geza Jeszenszky that

the Romanian party watched the actions of the Hungarian emigration in Canada, the U.S.A. and other countries and their claims on Transylvania, and that a corroboration of those actions with Hungary's daily official statements on the alleged oppression of he Hungarian minority in Romania showed that a true mechanism was resorted to in order to build a negative image of Romania.

An open revisionist action took place on 30 August 1990 between 6.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. when about one hundred persons most of whom were young people aged 15-16 gathered outside the Romanian Embassy in Budapest carrying Hungarian flags, threw manifestoes in the yard and shouted revisionist slogans. A Hungarian Police Detachment formed a protection shield along the embassy's sidewalk and continued to watch the building and its surroundings in the evening, after the demonstrators had dispersed.

In connection with the "open revisionist" action in the evening of 30 August outside the Romanian Embassy in Budapest, Romania's charge d'affaires ad-interim submitted to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry a note firmly rejecting the revisionist actions that the Hungarian authorities are no strangers to. The dissemination in the territory of Romania of manifestoes alleging that Romania should become a "confederation" is part of the same revisionist campaign, obviously echoing the Hungarian Foreign Minister's recent statements according to which Romania would be a "multinational state". The Romanian Government will never accept such attempts to distort the clear meaning of concepts of international law. Unquestionably, it is absurd to resort to the "multinational state" concept in connection with Romania and manipulate it in obvious contradiction with the reality.

RMDSZ Head Queried on Cooperation, Problems

AU0310170290 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 29 Sep 90 pp 1, 6

[Interview with Geza Domokos, chairman of the Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania, by Gyula Fejer in Zagon; date not given: "Geza Domokos—Hungarians in Romania Do Not Need Outside Advice"; first paragraph is NEPSZABADSAG introduction]

[Text] Thousands of people took part in the commemorating festivities organized in Zagon on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the birth Kelemen Mikes [Hungarian nobleman, Rakoczi's bodyguard]. Geza Domokos, the chairman of the Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania [RMDSZ], (who was born in Zagon, just like Kelemen Mikes,) was also present. We asked Domokos about the forces that the RMDSZ represents today.

[Domokos] I am glad that these festivities, organized by the RMDSZ, have attracted so many people. I think that the festivities will be reported in a positive light in Romania, as well as abroad. We are all here as guests of Kelemen Mikes. His example and his prestige are an important moral support for us. The 600,000 members of the RMDSZ are facing important tasks. We have to reconsider the association's structure and program. We have to think twice about our definition of local autonomy. Until now, our association merely dealt with political issues, but now, we have to place greater emphasis on economic questions. We cannot neglect our cultural tasks or the disclosure of social problems. We, of course, have to carry on politicizing, because we defend national minority rights. We also have 42 deputies in Parliament, which gives work even more responsibility.

[Fejer] Does the RMDSZ have the means to solve sociopolitical tasks?

[Domokos] We do not have the appropriate means, so far. If we collected membership fees regularly, we would have more than 30 million lei per year; however, we have not yet reached that stage. Nevertheless, the RMDSZ was recently given the opportunity to own registered enterprises with export and import rights.

[Fejer] As the chairman of the RMDSZ parliamentary faction, you recently sent an open letter to President Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman, and others, in which you urged a solution to Romania's crisis. Did you receive an answer?

[Domokos] I pointed out that we were witnessing more than anti-Hungarian sentiments and chauvinism; these are anti-democratic tendencies, and they hinder reforms. I stressed that it was not only Hungarians who were in trouble, but the all of Romania. I asked the country's leaders to prosecute people who are openly agitating, inciting to violence, and who are conducting a chauvinistic and racist policies. The minister of the interior said that they were aware of these phenomena, that the police would be objective, and that it would protect the property, security and rights of each citizen in the same way.

[Fejer] What is the RMDSZ's parliamentary strategy?

[Domokos] From the beginning, we have stated that we support those initiatives of the parliamentary faction of the governing National Salvation Front which serve the purpose of democratization and reform. We have good relations with the opposition parties. Our aim is to win over as many deputies as possible through our equanimity, our level-headeness and maybe our understanding. The opposition parties have initiated a form of dialogue on trying to establish closer cooperation, both inside and outside Parliament. The Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum, which was founded in Kolozsvar [Cluj], also serves this purpose, and out of the 41 counties, 14 have already joined the forum.

[Fejer] Is there any chance of Romanians turning toward our national minority in confidence, and recognizing our genuine intentions?

[Domokos] There is a lot of confusion. More information, greater political awareness, and a calmer atmosphere in society are all needed, as well as an open government approach. Just like in Hungary, there are moods, tendencies, illusions, and nostalgic sentiments in Romania which should be dealt with as soon as possible.

[Fejer] With reference to Hungary, are you thinking about the polemic surrounding the Trianon statue?

[Domokos] That issue fell like manna from heaven for extremists in Romania. People who make statements and take up positions should think 100 times before they speak, because—despite their good intentions—their statements may harm the masses. To those who are interested, we do everything we can to give better information about Romanian political realities, about the situation and interdependency of political forces, and about traditions and sensitive issues from our history.

[Fejer] Many people in Europe believe that Romania could be helped along by Hungary on its road to Europe. Do you agree with that idea?

[Domokos] There is some truth in the idea; however, it would be wrong to generalize. It is true that with its successes, Hungary could set an example for Romania in many areas; however, one can also sense Hungary's "traditional" self-contentment and arrogance in that statement.

[Fejer] President Iliescu has repeatedly stated his desire to meet the president of the Hungarian Republic, Arpad Goncz. Do you think that the two might meet in the near future?

[Domokos] The letter sent by Gyorgy Szabad [chairman of the Hungarian National Assembly] as a reply to the Romanian Parliament's statement was very well received here. The chairmen of the two parliaments are going to meet soon. Foreign ministers' meetings will undoubtedly continue to take place. I think that all this will facilitate a meeting between the two presidents. I do not know when such a meeting would take place, but if both sides want it, then it will be organized. Would a meeting serve any purpose? That depends on what people expect from such a meeting. Dialogue can only be established gradually and patiently. Neither country benefits from the hostilities, mistrust, and tension, and the primary losers are the Hungarians who live in Romania.

[Fejer] Have the Hungarian democrats in Romania established party links with Hungary's democrats, or with the representatives of other parties who also often visit Romania? Do these visits help, or, on the contrary, are they detrimental?

[Domokos] I live in Bucharest, and I am tied down by my work in Parliament and with the association. I, therefore, am not too familiar with the nature of these links. I think that if the links represent a further experience for us, then they are definitely positive. If they do not base themselves on Romanian realities, however, then they are detrimental. Already at its foundation, the RMDSZ said that it would formulate an independent policy. There have been times when Romanian parties have also tried to influence our decisions, in which case a reexamination of the situation has been necessary. We have to proceed in the same manner with friendly advice and suggestions which come from a different direction. After all, it is our conviction that nobody is better informed than us about the situation in which we live.

[Fejer] What hopes does the RMDSZ have for the future?

[Domokos] The situation is serious, the country is becoming poorer, and supplies are becoming worse. We are going to have energy problems again. Our production is decreasing. We are facing a very difficult winter.

[Fejer] Furthermore, the emotions are becoming more and more uncontrollable, of course....

[Domokos] People are more nervous and tired. There are some very active forces in the background which oppose the changes. These forces are also given coverage in the press, where they claim that the so-called democrats have led the country to the brink of bankruptcy. Unless the government becomes more determined, and unless the opposition can present an alternative program, an extremely serious situation may emerge. I do not exclude the possibility of a dictatorship rising to power, although not necessarily a military dictatorship. It is difficult to achieve results in this situation. Nevertheless, I hope that Hungarians in Romania will make use of the possibilities of change that are at their disposal. Young people are active, and the population is deliberately gathering around its churches and priests. A very important factor in our lives is that, since the revolution, our press has increased threefold. Hungarian television programs are also appreciated by Romanians. The programs, which carry Romanian subtitles, are watched by the whole country. They greatly contribute to a change in the image that Romanian society has of Hungarians. Hungarian radio programs are also important. I am confident that the RMDSZ, which is struggling for a change in the right direction, will find the best structural framework possible for its activities, and that the organization will continue to be of use for Hungarians in this country, as well as for the whole of Romania.

UDMR Condemns Education Ministry's 'Indecision'

AU0410201890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1803 GMT 4 Oct 90

["Education: HDUR Takes Position"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—The leadership of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (HDUR) [UDMR], taking a firm stand in connection with certain educational problems, particularly at the Industrial High School No. 33 in Bucharest, accuses the Ministry of Education and Science of "indecision and

inconsistency", which hampered the process of democratic organization of Hungarian-language education in Bucharest. The HDUR leadership insistently demands that the ministry and the capital's School Inspectorate restore the rule of law and internal order in the school.

The HDUR statement condemns extremist nationalist elements closely associated with the anti-minority and anti-Hungarian policy of the former dictatorial regime, who seek to perpetuate this policy. The HDUR expresses the opinion that such elements reject dialogue, attempt to use violence in order to stop the democratization process and generate social tension.

The leadership of the HDUR appeals to the democratic public opinion in this country, the impartial press, the international organizations for the restoration of the minorities schooling system to its rights, for the exposure, annihilation and uprooting of all forces that put a brake to the democratization process and even resort to diversionist actions.

Senate Continues Discussion on Trade Societies

AU0310203490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1929 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/10/1990—Romania's Senate continued its plenary debates on the bill on commercial societies. Discussions picked up from where they were left off the previous day: The contents and wording of article 23. The controversy revolved on whether or not the Chamber of Trade and Industry should be the one to okay the operation of share holding societies. Article 23 was eventually amended by a stipulation on the consultative role of the Chamber of Trade and Industry and finally voted by show of hands, with five abstentions.

Availing itself of pertinent clarifications made by government representative Mr. Dumitru Creanga, the Senate was able to pass another 41 articles of the bill before the end of its today's plenary session, which is to be resumed on Thursday.

The Senate continued its proceedings in the afternoon, in separate commissions.

Economic, Agricultural Issues Discussed

AU0410213790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2027 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Today's session of the Senate was mostly devoted to answering questions the government had been asked. 11 government officials tackled, among others things, the issue of job assignment to academic graduates during the transition period. In reply to an earlier query regarding the measures the government deems to take in order to throw light upon the manner in which the "ROMANIA LIBERA" daily was privatised, the government representative specified that, in compliance with article 29 of law 54/1990, the only body entitled to make inquiries is the Tribunal of Bucharest Municipality. Dissatisfied with the explanation given Senate Vice-President Vasile Mois, forwarded, on behalf of a group of senators, their objections to Eugen Dijmarescu, demanding a clearer answer in a next session.

Other topics, such as foreign trade and tourism, consumer goods supplies for the population were also given extensive coverage. In Romania state monopoly of foreign trade companies has practically been abolished and so far over 4,400 licenses have been granted to private or joint foreign trading companies, the government official informed. During the past nine months, it was shown, the government has tried to relieve the shortage of pharmaceutical drugs by spending about 131 million dollars and 85 million rubles, and that this problem is not fully solved yet.

Gheorghe Stefan, minister of education and science, referred to the alarming situation of the Romanian educational system which is short of 20,000 teachers.

A more dramatic situation has been reported in research where funds are as good as non-existing. For improvements in the fields of education and science, the representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science requested consistent and urgent funds from the government.

Another topic was that of street lighting, especially in rural areas where, it was pointed out, there are still 605 villages and hamlets unconnected to the mains.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food's representative specified, in his address, that, due to a prolonged drought, maize, sun-flower, grape and other crops on almost 2.5 million hectares (6.25 million acres) have been damaged bringing the total loss to over 9 billion lei.

Answers were also given to former questions regarding the nomination of prefects in Hungarian minority-inhabited counties, the measures taken to ensure travelers' safety in railway transport as well as the auction sale of 24 Romanian vessels.

The Senate's plenary proceedings will be resumed Monday, 8 October.

Deputies' Assembly 4 Oct Session Passes Bills

AU0410213490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2023 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—The Assembly of Deputies resumed its work Thursday [4 October] at Parliament Palace. It passed the bill on employment on competence-only criteria after which discussions started on a bill to amend Article 37 of Decree No. 281 of 21 July 1954 for the exercise of the lawyer's profession in Romania, which was also passed by a unanimity of vote.

Next to be discussed was the bill on the administrative law of which the first two articles were passed.

In the second part of the meeting, answers were given by several ministers to the questions asked on 20 September.

About several accidents in the economy, the inquiries showed they had been caused chiefly by technical faults, not by other factors. Although fewer than last year, these accidents lead to considerable damage and even loss of life, which requires a higher sense of responsibility from managers and the personnel in all industries.

On certain foreign trade activities, about three billion lei were shown to be owed to our country by certain states, repayment of that sum is due in several years. Agreements and arrangements have been made with most of the debtor countries for repayment in kind especially in crude, ores, food.

The Assembly will resume its work Monday 8 October.

* Justice Minister on State of Law

90BA0304A Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 4 Sep 90 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Justice Minister Victor Babiuc by Sergiu Andon; place and date not given: "Towards a State of Law"—first two paragraphs are ADEVARUL introduction]

[Text] The parliamentary special commissions have resumed their activities and the two houses are due to meet soon; in view of these events, the general public is interested in finding out about the most important draft bills that will be debated this fall. At the same time, the ideal of a lawful state and the need to restore the judicial branch to its prerogatices as a genuine power and as an equal expression of individual respect for the law, prompt us to look toward the conception"laboratories" of the Ministry of Justice where we assume that a competent body of experts, reinvigorated by a new perception, is working on draft bills and codes appropriate to the new social climate.

That is why we asked Justice Minister Victor Babiuc to tell ADEVARUL readers about the most important legislative amendments that he will propose to his department at the beginning of the parliamentary session.

[Andon] The penal procedure is a real barometer for the democracy of a judicial system. The major processes of this year have highlighted, or at least suggested, imperfections in this important code. How long will the present regulations remain in effect?

[Babiuc] The Justice Ministry has been paying special attention to amending the penal law so as to bolster the legality of judicial activities and completely adapt it to the ideals represented by the "human rights." One of the draft bills on the agenda of the Parliament concerns 'Laws for amending and supplementing certain penal procedure regulations.' The endeavors of the ministry experts to formulate clear and new texts—revolutionary, in a way—allow us to hope that the proposals will gain the support of the deputies and senators. These regulations are modeled on the most progressive and humanitarian law systems, so that, with the exception of minor imperfections, it is unlikely that anyone will oppose them, especially in the condition of our current political climate, in which everyone is deeply involved in combining the requirements of legal order with respect for freedoms and other basic human rights.

[Andon] More specifically, what are the main amendments proposed?

[Babiuc] First of all, they are primarily aimed at consolidating the right to self-defense throughout the course of a penal trial, which includes the penal investigation phase. Currently, legal assistance and contacts between defender and his lawyer are unrestricted only during the trial phase, but are limited to only a certain kind of actions during the investigation phase, while in some cases the presence of a defense lawyer is left up to the decision of the bodies in charge of the penal investigation. In other words, with the exception of a few moments—strictly determiuned and not very decisive for establishing the truth—according to the present laws in effect, the presence of a defense lawyer is more of a favor during the investigation stage. Once the proposed amendments have been passed, defense lawyers will be able to attend all the stages of a penal investigation.

[Andon] In other words, the famous "read him his rights and call him a lawyer" will be applied in our country, too.

[Babiuc] I prefer to reply to that by citing the final portion of Article 6 of the Code of Penal Procedure in the formula that we propose:

Any side is entitled to be assisted by a defense attorney throughout the course of a penal trial. The judicial bodies are obligated to inform the defendants or accused of their right to legal defense. In accordance with the conditions and cases envisaged by the law, the judicial bodies are obligated to provide legal defense for the defendant or accused if the latter has no designated defense attorney.

[Andon] So, if you'll excuse the expression, if a petty thief doesn't have his own lawyer, the state must provide one for him?

[Babiuc] The 'petty thief,' to use your expression, will be entitled to get in touch with a lawyer of his choice, and the latter will be in a position to ensure that all trial procedural rights are observed throughout the penal investigation. The state will ex oficio provide a defense attorney, also for the entire duration of the penal process, in the conditions and for the cases stipulated in the law, i.e., for certain categories of felons (such as minors) or felonies of a certain gravity. This kind of provisions are featured in the most progressive legal systems.

[Andon] Are there any other equally essential amendments to the penal procedure in effect?

[Babiuc] Yes. We canceled the right of the prosecutor's office to extend preventive detention. Once the new provisions are adopted, only courts can extend the detention, by a maximum of 30 days; in special cases the courts can approve additional extensions for penal investigation, naturally if serious cause can be shown.

[Andon] How is that different from the current procedure?

[Babiuc] Currently, the prosecutor is entitled to extend the preventive detention up to four months, and only after that do further extentionsfall under the competence of the courts . Frequently, however, this kind of extension was approved rather routinely. According to the new regulations, extentions of preventive detention are decided in the presence of the accused under arrest and in the presence of a defense attorney, which is obligatory.

[Andon] So what is the longest period for which a prosecutor is entitled to deprive a person under penal investigation of his freedom?

[Babiuc] The first 30 days.

[Andon] What other new regulations will be proposed?

[Babiuc] There is the right of a person charged and detained to appeal to the court to release him provisionally under legal supervision and pending certain obligations imposed by a judge's orders or on bail. Currently there are no such provisions in our legislations. Similarly, we introduced provisions whereby the judicial bodies are obligated to treat persons in preventive detention humanely and not to subject them to torture or other degrading punishments; this kind of treatment will be punished by law. The present law does not feature such legal provisions among the basic regulations of the penal process.

[Andon] Isn't there a risk that such regulations will encourage delinquency?

[Babiuc] The Justice Ministry views these regulations in close correlation with improving the entire concept and practice of penal responsibility. We will make better use and encourage criminology studies and penal studies, i.e., studies showing the effectiveness of punishments. In point of fact, among the finalized projects there is also one on a law to transfer the General Directorate of Prisons from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Justice.

[Andon] How long has it been since the prisons were under the administration of the Justice Ministry?

[Babiuc] Since 1948.

[Andon] What is the international practice in this respect?

[Babiuc] Detention facilities are administrated almost in all the advanced countries by the Ministry of Justice.

[Andon] What are the major effects of this administration?

[Babiuc] Better organization of detention facilities and more humanitarian treatment of prisoners in keeping with contemporary requirements.

Senator Denies Making 'Wild Statements'

LD0310130590 Budapest MTI in English 1030 GMT 3 Oct 90

[text] Bucharest, October 2 (MTI)—The broadcst of Radio Free Europe (RFE) that quoted Romanian Senator Gelu Voican-Voiculescu as allegedly saying at a Swiss news conference that the Hungarian minority "should be exterminated" caused general consternation in Hungary and among the Hungarian minority of Romania. According to the broadcast, the politician branded Laszlo Tokes as "an agent of foreign intellingence services". However, the senator, replying to an MTI corresponent, denied that he had made such statements.

The Bucharest correspondent of the Hungarian news agency MTI asked the Romanian politician who had just returned from Switzerland whether the RFE's allegations were true. The senator called the RFE broadcast utterly groundless, saying that it constituted a personal attack, and denied that he had made such wild statements about the Hungarian minority. "There isn't a single tape that could confirm the RFE report," he said.

Concerning the statements the RFE attributed to him, Gelu Voican-Voiculescu said:

I was invited to the opening of a Swiss mass media centre in Chaumont-Neuchatel on September 21. Together with other guests, I took part in public debates on the relationship between visual images and power. Neither in the debate, nor in any interview I gave to the Swiss and French TVs, radios and papers, did I refer in any way to the issue of minorities in Romania, let alone to the situation of the Hungarian minotiry. I explicitly refused Radio Free Europe's request to give an interview to the reporter of the Romanian broadcast. As a result, the allegations of the radio are completely false, based on lies and slander, and fit into a well-organized campaign of mud-throwing aimed at exerting a long-term influence on the general public. I regret that the Hungarian mass media was gullible enough to swallow the totally preposterous, spineless and false allegations of RFE.

I hope that the Hungarian public and the Hungarian minority in Romania will not believe the falsehoods and malicious distortions for these are a way of generating tension between the two peoples, the senator told the MTI correspondent.

Measures Planned To Ensure Operation of Press

AU0310204290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1921 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 3/10/1990—The Assembly of Deputies' Commission for Culture, Art and the Mass Media sent ROMPRES a communique which says that the commission has taken note of the substance of the

question asked by a group of senators on the measures planned by the government for the written press, especially in connection with the legal status of the "ROMANIA LIBERA" newspaper.

The commission takes the view that lawfully appointed bodies should take action to solve this case, which is not the only one, and asks for measures to ensure the lawful operation of state-owned newspapers.

The commission has decided that a working group be set up comprising one representative of each parliamentary formation in the commission to see that a solution is found to the underway action.

Newspaper Comments on Uselessness of Press Law

AU0410091390 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 29 Sep 90 p 1

[Viorel Stirbu article: "There Is No Need for a Press Law"]

[Text] No matter whether fascist, Nazi or communist, totalitarian regimes, as well as the most "gentle"—that is, just authoritarian regimes—issue a press law because journalism is only an appendix of propaganda and not a mechanism for public control of the exercise of power. The obstinacy of the Romanian authorities to hamper free expression stems from a totalitarian attitude, and some of the arguments are downright ridiculous. The interdiction of newspapers to publish military secrets and so forth! Let us see how things stand. If the Army has secrets—and it should have secrets—then it should guard them, because if the Romanian journalists do not discover them, satellites or foreigners will. If the Securitate has secrets it has to guard them, and so forth. The French newsman was right when he said to a representative of Romanian Television: "Gentleman, a journalist does not write about trains which arrive on time." Those in power want a press law to control, to find fault with, to prohibit as the case may be—briefly put, to subjugate the press. Speaking honestly, there are a few considerations we have to bear in mind: Free access to information actually has to be guaranteed for all citizens, not only for journalists; the obligation of those in power to recognize the status of the journalist; a possible rewording of press violations (slander, instigation, inciting to war or ethnic confrontations and so forth) and establishing such violations on the basis of court sentences and not on the basis of executive committee or government decisions. As for the rest, the authorities in charge of fiscal matters must see their its rights—that is, taxes. By no means should extremist publications—rightist or leftist—be authorized, as for example the political formations which have been declared illegal by the International Nuereмberg Tribunal. As for journalists, their talent and journalistic flair, as well as their courage to be in the midst of important events, do not stem from licenses issued by authorities. The organization of this guild is another matter and can be likened to a trade union. Under such conditions a press law lacks any substance.

Lack of Materials Results in Smaller Newspapers

AU0410153390

[Editorial Report] Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian on 2 October, page 1, carries in boldface a 500-word note by Anton Uncu entitled "I Do Not Want!..." protesting the "arbitrary decision" of State Minister Adrian Sirbu in forbidding the printing of ROMANIA LIBERA in 8 pages, as has been previously announced. The author writes that ROMANIA LIBERA has arranged for "a supplementary quantity of raw material" to be sent to the "Letea" paper factory to produce the extra paper for ROMANIA DAILY "and other newspapers," but that Minister Sirbu still refused authorization. The minister claimed that "other publications may object" to ROMANIA LIBERA running more pages. Until a final decision is made by the prime minister, the daily will continue to appear in 4 pages, and will cost 2 lei per issue as of 2 October.

Timisoara Trial of Former Party Activists Resumes

AU0410214990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1950 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Thursday, October 4, in Timisoara, the public trial was resumed of former party and state activists, security and militia members and collaborators. They are charged with genocide, complicity and favoring genocide as well as with criminal offenses perpetrated in Timisoara over 16-22 December. The defendants are also accused of having master-minded and led the reprisals: some of them opened fire against unarmed civilians, and continues street fighting after the dictator had been toppled, killing and wounding civilians and military. Since the beginning of this trial, the court has heard over 450 witnesses, damaged parties and plaintiffs. Also Thursday, the requests for supplementary circumstantial evidence asked by the prosecution defender and defendants were examined, a decision of the jury on whether to approve or reject it being put off.

The trial was adjourned proceedings are to be resumed on 22 October.

Employers Association Elects Steering Committee

AU0410174190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1628 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—Thursday, October 4, the Steering Committee of the Romanian National Employers Association was elected, at a meeting attended by members of the Steering Committee of the Romanian Economic Union of Private Entrepreneurs and by delegates of its local branches. The Employers Association set itself the task to protect the interests of its present and future members private owners, entrepreneurs and investors. This body, whose elected president is Constantin Muresan, will be an expression of the new economic, political and social realities in today's Romania.

* One Million Abortions in 1990 Called 'Alarming'

90P20126A Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 31 Aug 90 p 1

[Maria Cojocaru article: "An Alarming Fact: One Million Abortions"]

[Text] The liberalization of abortions—one of the first laws approved by the new government of the country, has led, as expected, to excessive demands on the obstetrical and gynecological facilities. In light of the large number of abortions (about 1,000,000 so far this year) and in light of the effects of these abortions on the health of the women, the Ministry of Health has taken some steps, on the national level, to ensure that women are protected against the negative consequences of abortion, steps which include the organization of a "Family Planning" course.

The participants have been able to get a general idea of the place which family planning occupies in the concerns of world medical organizations, as well as in the medical organizations of various democratic countries, because of the importance of family planning in maintaining health and social comfort and eliminating deaths caused by complications of abortion. In the past, when abortion was the scourge of gynecologists and the cause of numerous deaths in Romania, we were permitted to have only a vague (and clandestine) knowledge of contraceptive methods. The childbearing industry was the only one encouraged, despite its risks, by the Romanian state. Lack of knowledge of birth control methods and the lack of contraceptives on the Romanian market are still producing serious problems. Women are inclined to choose the final solution, the one which is most dangerous to their health—abortion. In addition, since they are unaware of the consequences of delays, patients are going to specialists for abortions in the second and third trimesters of pregnancy, when risks increase enormously. Specialists are given very special attention to adolescents whose sex education has been completely ignored until now.

The family planning centers, which we hope to establish all over the country, will be able to eliminate ignorance and provide to couples the information and methods which will give them full freedom in choosing the number of children they will have and when they will have them. Also, women will be assured of the right to a normal sexual life, free from the stress of unwanted pregnancy. These centers will have a lot to do in a country which, until yesterday, had no idea of family planning.

Electric Power Needs To Be Met in Winter

AU0410174790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1614 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 4/10/1990—The population's power demands will be given priority during winter months, Mr. Emilian Simian, counsellor at the Electricity and Heat Department, announced. An austerity programme will be enforced on industrial units which take up 84 per cent of the country's total production, as against only 7 percent which goes to the population.

Imported electric energy, which is around 12 per cent of the overall consumption will be entirely covered for the fourth quarter 1990. Negotiations are under way for the import of 1,200 MW [megawatts] for the first quarter of 1991. Germany has tendered power supplies an reasonable credit terms for next year.

Army General Staff Will Not Tolerate Indiscipline

AU0510091890 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 29 Sep 90 p 2

[Statement by "the personnel of the general staff" of the Romanian Army: "We Will Not Tolerate Indiscipline in the Army"]

[Text] We note with indignation that a small number of officers continue to express their views in the mass media on behalf of some illegal organizations—CADA [Action Committee for the Democratization of the Army] and Action for Military Justice—which seriously violates the norms of military life and conduct and the decisions of the Army's leadership bodies.

These "military" organizations take the liberty to speak on behalf of the Romanian Army, although they are very familiar with the natural reaction of rejection by the great majority of the military staff, and by public opinion. This is because from this past February up to now, they have initiated actions of a destabilizing nature for our country and the Army itself.

As the note entitled "New Acts of Intolerance" published in the 25 September issue of ROMANIA LIBERA also emphasizes, these officers use an aggressive tone to intimidate and confuse leaders with the aim of promoting mistrust among the leadership cadres, especially those characterized by determination, competence, organizational spirit, and constant concern with furthering the renewal process in the Army in keeping with legal provisions.

The renewal process of the Army, including the promotion of measures in accordance with the principles of the state of law and the democratic organization of the Romanian society, began before and apart from the actions of this group of cadres and encompassed the entire Army. Certainly, this process on the basis of which the Romanian Army is to become stronger and more united has nothing in common with tolerating actions at variance with the norms of military life. The text published in ROMANIA LIBERA on 25 September 1990 disregards these norms and tries to mislead the public in connection with the situation of the Romanian Army. To transfer to the reserve those military cadres, who do not observe military norms and thus

threaten the cohesion of the Army, does not constitute a "gross violation of the most elementary human rights," as instigating officers say.

At the same time, we express profound indignation at the unjust and ill-willed accusations made by these officers against Colonel General Vasile Ionel, secretary of state and chief of General Staff, about whom they say was recalled from the reserve; it is well known that he was just delegated as deputy minister to the national economy. Furthermore, on the basis of this decision, he was to be pushed to a peripheral position because he aroused suspicion and was inconvenient for the dictators.

Throughout his activity, Colonel General Vasile Ionel has clearly demonstrated his adherence to the values of the revolution and the Army, as well as his organizational ability and professional competence to lead the ample and renewing process within the Romanian Army. He has also demonstrated his concern with achieving a moral and responsible atmosphere within the General Staff.

Taking into consideration the fact that these officers deliberately defy military norms and decisions of the higher military council, the Ministry of National Defense, and the order of the minister of national defense which prohibits the existence and operation of any kind of illegal committees and groups because such actions undermine the Army's combat capability, we ask Colonel General Victor Stanculescu to permit the Military Prosecutor's Office to examine the activity of those officers.

At the same time, given the fact that some cadres of these narrow-minded groups have repeatedly tried to disinform our country's Parliament, we want to appeal to the Senate and Deputies Assembly to take into consideration the fact that these officers do not represent anyone and have no mandate to speak on behalf of the Romanian Army.

We want to express the conviction that ROMANIA LIBERA will publish our position as well and if it respects the Romanian Army and wants to truly promote democratic principles in Romanian society and our country's major interests, we ask it not to believe compromised military cadres, including the units from which they come, who have violated military dignity and honor and the democratic principles which they invoke in a demagogic and unjustified way.

The personnel of the General Staff

Slovene Assembly Formally Annuls 30 Federal Laws

LD0410221490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1919 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—The parliament of the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia today adopted a constitutional law which entirely or partially annuls 30 federal laws in the field of the economy, politics and defence because they are in opposition to the Slovenian Constitution. It was pointed out, after the adoption of the new constitutional law, that it is an important step forward in the establishment of sovereignty and the gradual exclusion of Slovenia from Yugoslavia's legal system.

The socio-political council of the Slovenian Assembly today adopted an initiative of the Socialist Party of Slovenia to state a plebiscite on "their own, independent, sovereign state of Slovenia" prior to adoption of the new republican constitition, which will most likely to take place early next month.

All three chambers of the Slovenian Assembly should finally decide on the initiative at the next joint session, and by that time the republican government and other competent organs will prepare measures which in the meantime will be adopted in the event of an outbreak of conflicts in Yugoslavia.

Explaining the initiative on the plebiscite, a delegate of the Socialist Party of Slovenia assessed that this is an internationally accepted form for expressing the people's will which would thus ensure the faster recognition of Slovenia as an international subject.

In case the majority of the inhabitants of Slovenia vote for an independent state, the Socialist Party of Slovenia demands that the Slovenian parliament "launch steps which should transform the will of the people into a completely legitimate de facto leaving of the Yugoslav federation."

The conclusion of the initiative sets out that only the self-determination of the people of Slovenia "would enable the legitimate and legal contemplation of possible linking with other republics within present Yugoslavia or outside it."

The delegates of the Slovenian Democratic Alliance demanded that together with a plebiscite a law be passed on citizenship and suffrage which would regulate gaining citizenship in the new Slovenian state. It also demanded that during the discussion on the plebiscite a deadline be fixed by which all the organs and units of the Yugoslav army must withdraw from the territory of Slovenia.

Upholds Proposal for Plebiscite

LD0410231190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1627 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—The Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia, before the adoption of a new republican constitution, will call a plebiscite on an independent and sovereign Slovene state, most likely by the beginning of November. The socio-political chamber of the republican Assembly has endorsed the initiative of the Slovene Socialist Party [Socijalisticka Stranka Slovenije] at a session today. Assembly deputies will make the final decision on the plebiscite and how to hold it at the next assembly session. The other two chambers of the Slovene Assembly adopted similar stands. Before the next Assembly session is held, the Republican Executive Council and other competent bodies and offices will prepare measures on what is to be done in case of emergencies and unforseeable complications in Yugoslavia which most participants in a discussion at the Slovene Assembly session predict. The measures will be adopted before the Assembly session.

The plebiscite as a mode of public expression of opinions is both acceptable and welcome, because, according to Slovene Socialist Party deputies, it represents an internationally accepted mode of expression of the people's will. As such, it will certainly secure a speedier recognition of Slovenia as an international subject.

Deputies of the Slovene Democratic Alliance [Slovenacki Demokratski Savez] demanded that, together with the plebiscite, a law on citizenship and electoral rights be adopted. The law will regulate the procedure and rights to acquire citizenship in a new state of Slovenia. They also insist that in the course of the discussion on the plebiscite, the deadline is set within which all Yugoslav People's Army bodies and units be removed from the territory of Slovenia.

The initiative to call a plebiscite has been justifed with the claim that "this is the only legitimate and internationally recognized legal way for the Slovene Republic to become a full subject as a state through the expression of the will of its people. At the moment, legal and other conditions for calling a plebiscite exist. Because of a possible military repression on the territory of Yugoslavia and other reasons which could arise from the crisis in the country," the plebiscite proposers believe, "our missing this opportunity will have a decisive impact on the future of the independence process in Slovenia. In case the majority of the Slovene population votes in favor of an independent state, the Assembly of the Slovene Republic must," the initiative goes on to state, "open up a process which will translate the people's will into legally sanctioned separation from the Yugoslav federation." Most deputies, advocates of the plebiscite, predict that "the international public will not react negatively" to such a move. The initiative concludes that the self-determination of the Slovene people "will pave the way for legal and legitimate discussion on possible ties with other republics, i.e. states, within or outside Yugoslavia."

Slovene Defense Headquarters Occupied by JNA

LD0510092290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0820 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 5 Oct (TANJUG)—Radio Ljubljana reported this morning that the building of the republican headquarters of the Slovene Territorial Defense in Ljubljana was occupied last night. According to the same

source, there are no visible signs of the occupation, apart from a JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] vehicle parked in front of the building.

So far, there has been no official information about the event, Radio Ljubljana reports.

16 Soldiers Inside; Workers To Leave

LD0510095190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0106 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 5 Oct (TANJUG)—According to the latest information, broadcast around 0920 by Ljubljana Radio: The Slovene Territorial Defense Force headquarters has been occupied since last night.

The radio further states: According to unofficial information, 16 soldiers are in the headquarters building, which is locked. Ljubljana Radio also announces: Civilians employed by the headquarters will soon be allowed to leave the building.

The Ljubljana Radio broadcast further reports that the recently appointed commander of the Slovene Territorial Defense Force headquarters, Janez Slapar, is neither in the occupied building nor has he visited the headquarters. Due to complications in the relations between the JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] and the Slovene Territorial Defense Forces, he was assigned work premises in the Republican Secretariat for National Defense. Ljubljana Radio stresses: Business is as usual in the Repblican Secretariat for National Defense.

Other Buildings Being Protected

AU0510095290 Ljubljana Radio Slovene Network in Slovene 0905 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] [Monitored in progress] ...in front of the building of the Republican Territorial Defense headquarters. The event considerably perturbed the Slovenes, which is understandable considering the tension in the relations between Ljubljana and Belgrade connected with control over the Territorial Defense Forces.

We have learned that during the night, the Military Police visited Janez Slapar, acting chief of the Territorial Defense staff.

Because the Military Police broke into the republican headquarters, communal staffs of the Slovene Territorial Defense Forces were alerted during the night.

Immediately after the Army action, the Slovene police went into action, too. The militiamen also joined security men in protecting important buildings and institutions of wide social significance.

People Gathering Outside Building

AU0510102390 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1000 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] The crowd in front of the headquarters building of the Republican Territorial Defense Forces Staff [in Ljubljana] is becoming more and more numerous. According to the employees who came out of the building, there are 16 armed soldiers in the building. These occupied the building last night at about 2300 [2200 GMT]. They first cut off all telephone and other lines so that the duty officer was unable to call or inform his superiors.

Igor Bavcar, republican secretary for internal affairs, stated to our radio that the building that soldiers occupied by force last night is in fact a building belonging to the Yugoslav People's Army. Therefore there is no need for any excessive excitement, because looking from the military side, the action was taken just to protect the building in Prezihova Street which is the property of the Army. He also said that the Republican People's Defense Staff, set up on the basis of the constitutional amendments adopted in the republican Assembly last Friday [28 September], is working unimpeded in the premises of the Republican Secretariat for People's Defense in Zupanciceva Street.

We have just learned that there will be no news conference on the night's events, but the appropriate republican organs will publish an official statement. We are expecting this statement any minute, and we will publish it at once.

'No Reason for Citizens To Get Excited'

AU0510104790 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1012 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] We have just received the following statement by the republican Secretariat for Information:

In connection with the excitement that has arisen because of the Military Police action, putting up guards at the premises of the former headquarters of the republican Territorial Defense Staff in the night between 4 and 5 October, the republican Secretariat for Information informs the public that there is no reason for citizens to get excited.

In opposition to the decisions by the Slovene Assembly, the SFRY Presidency adopted a decision on Tuesday, 2 October 1990, transferring the command over the Territorial Defense Forces of Slovenia directly to the Command of the Fifth Army Region. On this basis, on the night of 4 October, Colonel General Ivan Hocevar, former commander of the republican Territorial Defense Staff of Slovenia, called a Military Police detachment to mount additional guards at the building in which the republican Territorial Defense Staff was located until recently.

The Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia protested to the SFRY Presidency because of this act, which is completely opposed to the Slovene Assembly decisions. It believes that it is a provocative act whose intention is to cause excitement and conflict.

Personnel of the Slovene Territorial Defense Forces and of Internal Affairs organs were following the events, but

they did not intervene because the republican Territorial Defense Staff is no longer at its previous location. In fact the transfer in the Territorial Defense of Slovenia was carried out at 1200 on Thursday, 4 October 1990, when the former commanders of the regional Territorial Defense staffs handed over their duties to the newly appointed commanders.

All those employed in the republican Territorial Defense Staff who are not active military personnel signed a declaration today expressing their loyalty to the Slovene Assembly decisions and the newly appointed Chief of the republican Territorial Defense Staff, Major Janez Slapar.

The republican Territorial Defense Staff is thus functioning in its new composition, and is fully carrying out all its duties. Therefore there is no reason for citizens to get excited.

Bovcar Says Operations Running Normally

LD0510105190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0952 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 5 Oct (TANJUG)—The Slovene secretary for internal affairs, Igor Bovcar, has stated for Ljubljana Radio that "there is no need to be anxious" because the Slovene Territorial Defense Force headquarters has been taken over. According to him, "The takeover of the Slovene Territorial Defense Force headquarters has been carried out to protect objects belonging to the JNA [Yugoslav People's Army]. The Slovene Territorial Defense Force headquarters, set up in accordance with the amendments endorsed by the Slovene Assembly, is working normally in the Slovene Secretariat for National Defense building."

Serbian Resistance in Croatia Issues Statement

AU0510093490 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] A statement on Ustasha violence was issued in Knin this morning by the Council of Serbian National Resistance. Here is a report by Ljubisa Cvetkovic, reporter of Radio Belgrade Second Program:

[Cvetkovic] Croatia has no strength to break the Serbian resistance with the Croatian police violence. Any delay in fulfilling our demands harms Croatia. In addition to the release of our hostages, we demand the following in Kordun and Banija:

The return of the weapons seized from the police in Benkovac and Obrovac;

The withdrawal of special militia units from all Serbian communes;

A unified police system with its center in Knin;

After our hostages are freed from prison, prosecution against them must be stopped and all documents concerning them burned under the supervision of a commission.

The names of the freed hostages must be published in all public information media.

The commission with Vasil Tupurkovski which will visit (?places) in the Serbian region under the decision of the SFRY Presidency (?should) obligatorily (?include) Miroslav Djordjevic, member of the Serbian Government.

As regards the special militia units which the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Croatia stated to have been withdrawn from the Serbian communes, we inform all the representatives of the fourth estate [the press] that they should please visit this area and personally note their presence and note the lie of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Croatia.

Glina Official Interviewed on 'Tense' Situation

AU0410195990 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Interview with Velibor Matijasevic, president of the Glina Communal Assembly, by Radovan Pantovic; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Pantovic] Would you please sum up the events during these past few days and tell us about the present political situation in your commune?

[Matijasevic] The situation is apparently calm, but restlessness can be felt among the population. They do not feel secure, they do not trust the statement of the Croatian Ministry that the special forces have been withdrawn to Zagreb and that they will not intervene in the communes where peace and order are not violated. Namely, there have been promises even before to the effect that the special forces would not come to Glina, but they did come that night when the commander of the Public Security Station was arrested. So far, we have no information about whether he has been released or not—(?we should be told) today—so this is one of the facts that threaten to touch off an explosion in this tense situation and I think that as long as he is not released from prison, the situation is going to be very tense.

[Pantovic] We have heard that reinforcements have arrived to the local militia station, that about 10 new militiamen have arrived from Zagreb.

[Matijasevic] As far as I know, the reinforcements have arrived from Sisak and they are regular forces of the Internal Affairs Secretariat meant to replace individual workers of the Glina Public Security Station who are on sick leave and some who refused to continue working in the militia, because they are of the opinion that there is pressure to replace ethnic Serb militiamen and commanders of the public security stations. They believe that one can no longer work in such a service.

Special Police Withdrawn From Petrinja in Banja

LD0310221790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1745 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Petrinja, 3 Oct (TANJUG)—It was quiet in Petrinja today. The special police units have been withdrawn by the Croatian Interior Ministry from this town in Banija, a region in Croatia predominantly populated by Serbs. Life returned to normal in the town, where production was restored and schools reopened.

It was quiet also in the nearby towns of Glia and Dvor na Uni, where the situation was also very tense the past several days, because the Serbian population received the decision of Croatian authorities to take away arms from police reservists as an attack on their own security.

The withdrawal of special police units, which began last night, brought relief to the town of Dvor na Unit, but not complete peace. Town residents are protesting against the announced arrival of new, regular Croatian police units.

The municipal leadership today held a discussion and called on the Croatian Interior Ministry not to send new police forces. It also protested against the unobjective coverage of the developments in the area in the past few days by the Croatian media.

The situation was much better today on the major roads in Croatia, on which the traffic unfolded with difficulties or came to a standstill in the past few days, because of the road blocks put up by the local population.

Road traffic was not back to normal this morning only in the Knin area, southern Dalmatia.

Transportation Still Being Affecting in Knin

Road Blockade Continues

LD0410105190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0714 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Almost all the roads leading to Knin are still blocked. According to the Croatian Automobile Association, rocks and fallen trees are blocking the roads toward Sinj, Drnis, Bosansko Grahovo, and Gracac.

Rail Traffic Returning to Normal

LD0410145290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1036 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Knin, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—According to Knin rail transportation duty officer rail traffic in the Knin region is gradually returning to normal. The rail line to Split has been open since 0855.

Dvor na Uni Returning to Normal; Oil Arrives

LD0410150690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1252 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Dvor na Uni, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—The second day after the departure of special units of the Croatian Ministry for Internal Affairs peace and a working atmosphere have returned to Dvor na Uni. In contrast to yesterday when only about 50 percent of schoolchildren attended classes, all schoolchildren are back in schools today. This morning primary schoolchildren started to attend classes as well. Production is back to normal in all enterprises.

Municipal workers are having most to do. The town and especially the town part—where special units were stationed—were left in such a state of disorder that a sanitary inspector had to intervene.

Stores are better stocked on the whole. Yesterday afternoon 5,000 liters of petrol arrived. Shortages of petrol and oil, however, are still acute in Dvor na Uni.

TANJUG Summarizes Events Across Croatia

LD0410212690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1931 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Knin, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—The railway transport in the Knin region is gradually being normalized, as announced today by railway dispatcher Jovan Novkovic. He said that the railway to Split was operating since Thursday [5 September] morning.

The railway transport via Knin was disrupted for several days because of roadblocks set up by Serbs in order to prevent the action of special units of the Croatian police which were implementing last week the order of the Croatian authorities to collect the weapons belonging to police reservists in the district inhabitated by Serbs.

The trade union of Knin sent on Thursday afternoon a protest to president of the Croatian Assembly Zarko Domjan over the incident at today's Assembly session. On the occasion, a deputy from the ruling Croatian Democratic Union charged the deputy of the Serbian Democratic Party, Radoslav Tanjga. [sentence as received]

It has been requested that the Serbian delegates in the Croatian Assembly are provided with security.

The Petrinja Assembly and leaders of all the parties called on all the citizens and in particular the Serbs and the Croats, to calm down and to return to life together.

A submachine gun and 80 bullets, a gun and four rounds of ammunition for automatic guns were returned in the town of Dvor na Uni on Wednesday night and Thursday morning.

The citizens have taken from the police station in the town six machine guns, 36 submachine guns, 35 guns

and 30,876 bullets. So far, one machine gun, three rifles and 365 bullets have been returned.

Croatian Government Vice President Babic Resigns

LD0410105990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0737 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Dr. Mate Babic, vice president of the Croatian Government, announced this morning his decision to resign, prompted by some of the recent cadre solutions in the republic. If carried out, this resignation will plunge the Croatian Government into a crisis in the light of previous requests to be replaced made by Drazen Kalodjera, who is in charge of restructuring the economy, and by Dr. Stjepan Zdunic, director of the republic's Social Planning Institute. Under a decision made this morning by the government Zvonimir Medvedovic, who is in charge of small businesses, will leave the government to take up the post of director of the Crotian development fund.

The immediate reason for Vice President Mate Babic's resignation is a proposal to appoint Ivica Gazi (HDZ) [Croatian Democratic Community], deputy from Vrbovac and chairman of the Croatian Assembly's committee for economic policy and development, to head the administrative board of the Croatian development fund. In Mate Babic's view this important function should be within the competence of the government's vice president in charge of the economy.

Croat Assembly Discusses Clashes, Constitution

LD0410205390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1801 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—At today's session of the Assembly of the Republic of Croatia, republican Deputy Interior Minister Perica Juric accused "anti-Croatian and antidemocratic forces in Croatia and Yugoslavia" of being responsible for the events in Banqja and Kninska Krajina which were aimed at toppling the democratic authorities in Croatia.

Juric said that the Croatian authorities' decision on the taking away of 60 percent of the equipment and weapons from police stations "was only an excuse for the attacks on and plundering of police stations" and that all the events happened without being condemned by federal institutions.

Juric said that 25 automatic rifles, 75 rifles, 157 pistols and 59,035 pieces of ammunition have been stolen from police stations in the towns of Petrinja, Glina and Dvor na Uni. He added that only one automatic rifle, three rifles and 365 bullets have been returned in Dvor na Uni.

Juric said that 17 persons have appeared before the investigating judge. That three persons from Petrinja, five from Dvor na Uni and one from Glina are still in detention.

The Croatian deputies warned about the grave dangers of the situation turning into an armed clash and urged a peaceful and political solution in the interest of the both the Croatian and Serbian people.

Croatia's newly elected member of the Yugoslav State Presidency Stjepan Mesic, whose appointment is still to be confirmed by the Federal Assembly, assessed that "the rebellion in Croatia was imposed" by architects from far away. He said that Serbs in Croatia have been sacrificed for the outcome of the elections in Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, for the victory of the hard-line policy. [sentence as received]

The speech of the only delegate of the Serbian Democratic Party, Radoslav Tanjga, who sharply criticized the activities of Croatian authorities, reproaching them for "continuous tyranny against the Serbian people in Croatia" and described them of being Ustasha oriented, ended in an incident. A delegate of the Croatian Democratic Union Ivan Bobetko threw his briefcase at Tanjga after which he left the speaker's platform.

Tanjga's speech was criticized by Assembly Vice President Vladimir Seks who proposed that the assembly vote by acclamation on the proclaimed autonomy of Serbian municipalities in Croatia and pronounce it null and void.

A report on the situation in Banija and Kninska Krajina and an initiative by the "left bloc" for the adoption of a declaration on the general principles for a new historic agreement among Yugoslav republics were annexed to the agenda of two-day assembly session.

The proposal of Vladimir Veselica that independence of the Republic of Croatia and priority of Croatia's constitution and laws over federal ones be proclaimed at the session was not adopted.

The deputies voted twice on Vesilica's proposal which was finally rejected with 172 votes against, 48 for and 54 abstentions.

Assembly Vice President and Republican Constitutional Commission Chairman Vladimir Seks called on the deputies to [word indistinct] and reject the remaining 14 amendments to the federal Constitution.

Seks said that amendments to the federal Constitution can be adopted and declared only according to procedure set out in the 1974 Yugoslav Constitution, which envisages that they be approved by all republican and provincial assemblies—including the dissolved Assembly of the Province of Kosovo. Seks said that the Croatian Assembly does not recognize the illegal dissolving of the Assembly of the Province of Kosovo.

Independence Call Rejected

LD0410132290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1011 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—The two-day session of Croat Assembly started in Zagreb this morning with a joint session of the assembly's three chambers. In addition to a debate on the amendments to the federal Constitution and a number of appointments and dismissals, the agenda was amended to include two topical issues: the situation in Banija and Knin region and an initiative by the "left bloc" to adopt a declaration on general principles to be adhered to in the work on reaching a new historic agreement between the Yugoslav republics.

The Assembly rejected a proposal by Vladimir Veselica to include a political declaration proclaiming the independence of the Republic of Croatia on the agenda and to pass a decision giving the Constitution and Croatian laws precedence over the federal documents. After a repeated vote and following debates by about dozen deputies this proposal was rejected with 172 votes against, 48 for, and 54 abstentions.

Law on Flag, Anthem Withdrawn

LD0410110190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0715 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Less than two hours before the Croat Assembly begins two-day session the Croat Government this morning withdrew from the assembly procedure a proposed law on the new coat of arms, the flag, and the national anthem of the Republic. According to a brief statement this law is still incomplete and full of unelaborated solutions.

Trade Union in Knin Protests Attack on Deputy

LD0410225790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1507 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Knin, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—At the insistance of a large number of workers in collectives throughout the Knin region, we express the deepest indignation and protest the physical assault on our deputy, Radolsav Tanjga, which occured in the Croat Assembly. This is stated in a telegram sent today to the president of the Croat Assembly, Zarko Domljan, by the Knin Municipal Trade Unions Council.

The telegram, signed by secretary of the Municipal Trade Unions Council, Milinko Sandic, demands that physical safety for all Assembly deputies is ensured. It also stresses that no Croat—at work or on the streets—be inconvenienced or harassed in "notorious Chetnik and terrorist Knin."

Tupurkovski in Zagreb for Talks With Tudjman

LD0410105390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0857 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Dr. Vasil Tupurkovski, member of the SFRY Presidency, arrived in Zagreb this morning. Upon his arrival in the Croatian capital Dr. Vasil Tupurkovski, in accordance with the conclusions of the last session of the SFRY Presidency, met with President Dr. Franjo Tudjman and his aides. Talks are being conducted behind closed doors. Dr. Tupurkovski is expected to visit Petrinja this afternoon.

Tupurkovskio 'Relatively Optimistic' for Peace

LD0410230290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2014 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Petrinja, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency member Vasil Tupurkovskio stated this evening, after conferring with party leaders and municipal representatives of Petrinja, Croatia, that he is "relatively optimistic" that the situation in the region will calm down.

Petrinja, the largest town in Banija, a region predominantly populated by Serbs, was the site of unrest and clashes between town residents and units of the Croatian Interior Ministry during the past seven days.

Tupurkovski is in Croatia to get acquainted with the situation in the republic and try and help find a solution to the disagreements and conflicts between the Serbian population and the Croatian authorities.

Tupurkovski met with the Croatian leadership in Zagreb this morning. Commenting on the contacts he had today, Tupurkovski said that it was clear at this point that "everybody is striving for democratic and legal solutions."

Tupurkovskiy [words indistinct] travel to Knin, a Dalmatian town which is a centre of the Serbian population's resistance to the Croatian authorities.

Asked whether the Yugoslav State Presidency has thought of using the army to calm down the unrest which shook Croatia during the past seven days, Tupurkovski said that the Yugoslav state leadership has thought "only of how to protect the legal state and democratic processes."

Croatian Unrest Called Indicative of Democracy

AU0410131990 Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE in Serbo-Croatian 2 Oct 90 p 4

[Darjan Zadravec commentary: "Democracy, People, and Violence"]

[Text] Protests, demonstrations, and even road barricades are a part of the daily life (cynics would say "folklore") of modern democratic systems and states. After all, French farmers recently set up barricades on

the railroad line along which French President Mitterrand was to travel on the inaugural voyage of a new high-speed train (the occasion for this action was the drought and farmers' dissatisfaction with the slow state reaction in repairing the damage).

Democracy also means, among other things, a public demonstration of dissatisfaction by an individual or a group with a certain situation in the country or with a move or moves by the authorities. But, there is a limit: Everything is allowed (although this is relative, too), but the limit is violence. If violence occurs, the state responds with its force.

The latest events in Croatia (Banija, and parts of Lika and North Dalmatia), as well as the preceding ones in Knin, exceeded this limit, the line between protest and violence. Breaking into militia stations and seizing militia (state) weapons, physically attacking journalists and militiamen, armed vigilantes stopping vehicles on the roads, demanding identity papers, and searching passengers, and so forth: What is this if not violence?

However, the matters in Croatia (and it seems all over our country, which for the time being is still called Yugoslavia) are not as simple nor as principled.

Specifically, in connection with everything that happens in Croatia, and especially in commentaries by journalists of local media and the reaction by the highest representatives of the authorities, one almost exclusively points out the implementation of a "great Serbian scenario" which wants to destabilize Croatia and the entire country. However, one forgets in all this that in implementing a certain policy, in this case the said "scenario," one should take into consideration the situation in a given area, or rather the feeling of the people who accept or do not accept what is offered to them. In other words, is it not justified to pose the question whether the situation in Croatia itself and the moves by the (new) authorities on their part contribute to what is happening?

Should one look for at least a part of the causes in the fact that power in Croatia has been won by one political party (the Croatian Democratic Community) on the basis of votes of about 40 percent of the voters who went to the polls (if one takes into account the total of the people entitled to vote, the electoral support for the winning party is even smaller), but that this party, now being the ruling power, behaves as if it had the support of more than 50 percent of the voters at least? In this fashion, the Constitution was changed, the name and the symbols of the republic were changed, and so forth. To quite legitimate protests of the opposition (which, by the way, has no influence on the outcome of voting on proposals in the parliament), the leaders of the new power reply that the voters have "had their say" at the elections about everything that is decided and implemented! By the way, even those few instances of a two-thirds majority being required for decisions have been abolished with the new constitutional amendments passed by a simple majority of votes! In brief, part of the moves by the new power cannot count on a majority support, and this becomes particularly sensitive when it concerns decisions that relate to questions of interethnic relations in the republic, or rather certain rights in this connection.

To be specific, the immediate cause of the latest disorders and protests in Croatia is the order of the Internal Affairs Ministry to transfer a portion (60 percent) of the reserve militia weapons "in the field" to certain regional militia centers, for the purpose of "arming an increased number of active personnel of the Internal Affairs Service." We will not enter into a discussion of causes and excuses for this order, but we think that the authorities (precisely because they are the authorities) should have assessed whether such a decision or order can be implemented, and whether it can cause reactions that will dispute it. Such a reaction in the communes where the Serbs are a majority could be foreseen, particularly since it was preceded by the experience of the "Knin events."

Well, what happened, happened, and now it only remains to speculate whether this or that person knew something and whether in fact efforts were made to cause the events that followed. Indeed, the latest proclamation of "Serbian autonomy" may confirm the thesis about a "scenario," but this does not reduce the responsibility of the republican authorities to foresee and prevent by political means what has happened and what is happening. And let us not be naive: What is happening indeed teeters on the brink of a real civil (interethnic) war in Croatia and beyond. Every democratic power and state is obliged to prevent what now exceedingly threatens. It is bound in the name of the democracy which this power invokes. Where dialogue, discussions, and even protests are replaced by the rule of police and of indisputable orders, democracy is on the retreat.

Parties Meet in Zagreb, Discuss Recent Events

LD0410084390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1554 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Zagreb, 3 Oct (TANJUG)—A meeting was held in Zagreb today at the initiative of the HDZ [Croatian Democratic Community] of almost all political parties in Croatia at which the current events in the republic were discussed.

The chairman of the Serbian Democratic Party was invited to the meeting but explained his absence on the grounds of the short notice with which the meeting was convened yesterday and the impossibility of consultations with his party's leadership.

A commission was formed with representatives from five parties which will in the shortest possible time draw up a draft text of a joint position which, after their adoption in the parties, will be sent to the Assembly and Croatian Government.

Serbian Rally Protests Macedonian 'Pretensions'

AU0410204790 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The pretensions toward the part of the Serbian territory that are openly expressed by individual Macedonian leaders, as well as the conclusion issued by the Macedonian Assembly to the effect that borders with Serbia should be reexamined, have provoked revolt and indignation among tens of thousands of citizens in southern Serbia. A protest meeting has been held for that reason in the local community of Klenike in the commune of Bujanovac. Here is a report by Vranje Radio reporter, Cedomir Markovic:

[Markovic] The people who have come from 17 villages in the Bujanovac commune near Macedonia and gathered at the protest meeting in Klenike, a local community at the foot of Mount Kozjak have condemned the behavior of the Macedonian leaders and authorities who are persistently doing everything to make the Macedonian and Serbian people quarrel and then changing the border between the two republics. The message of the people from this part of Serbia is that these occupiers' intentions, as well as the conclusion advising the reexamination of the border with the Serbian state issued by the Macedonian Assembly will never be realized. In order to maintain its integrity, the Serbian people will oppose such attempts with all possible means.

The proposal of the Macedonian state bodies that the leaderships of the two republics should discuss the possibility of rearranging the border is equally meaningless, because the border between the two republics has long been established and known.

In case Macedonian political bodies and state authorities continue to spread disinformation and lies to the effect that the complex of the Prohor Pcinjski Monastery and the wider region around it as far as Ristovac belongs to Macedonia, the citizens of the Klenike region will justifiably ask whether the museum of the Antifascist Assembly of National Liberation of Macedonia should continue to be located within this medieval Serbian shrine.

Vojvodina Opposition Protests Serb Constitution

AU0410120690 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 26 Sep 90 p 4

["B.L."-signed report: "Constitution That Ignores the Truth"]

[Text] Novi Sad—A group of opposition parties and organizations of Vojvodina (the League of Social Democrats of Vojvodina and Yugoslavia, the Pan-National Democratic Front of Vojvodina, the Democratic Party-Novi Sad Local Committee, the Slovak Matica, the Alliance of Ruthenians and Ukrainians of Yugoslavia, and the Democratic Alliance of the Croats of Vojvodina) yesterday issued the following statement in connection with the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia:

Having been prevented from constructively influencing in any way the policy of the single-party regime in power during the preparations and the work on the adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia so far, we wish in this way to acquaint the citizens of Vojvodina and Serbia, and the Yugoslav public, with our basic stands and our attitude as regards the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia whose "adoption" is entering its final stage. This Constitution is opposed to the political platforms and aims for which our parties and organizations struggle, as well as to the historical and immediate interests of all the people who live in Vojvodina. Even more crudely than the present imposed constitutional order, this constitution ignores the essence and negates the political entity of Vojvodina as a historical region in this part of Yugoslavia and an autonomous part within the Republic of Serbia. The Constitution ruthlessly denies the political and territorial autonomy of Vojvodina as a fact and an achievement, and in this way jeopardizes any possibility of realizing personal, political, and cultural self-management of the nationalities living in the province. The Constitution aims at imposing a forced unity of Serbia as a centralistic bureaucratic state entity. Therefore it is in principle unacceptable to Vojvodina as a whole and to all its citizens.

The Constitution to be "presented" to us by the undemocratic regime ruthlessly imposes the arbitrary will of an aggressive leadership, the actual party in power, on the democratic public of the Republic of Serbia. As never before in the history of the state of Serbia, the Constitution establishes the personal power of an autocratic leader and party over all the institutions and resources and every individual in the republic. In addition, it preserves the model of relations that brought Serbia to the present economic crisis and lack of prospects. It also ignores the truth that there is no political stability and no affirmation of democracy in the republic as a whole unless this happens in the several parts of it.

The delegates of the Vojvodina Assembly and its "representatives" in the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Serbia who vote for the discriminatory and backward constitution must bear in mind that they will bear direct personal and historical responsibility to all who live in Vojvodina; likewise, the delegates of the Assembly of Serbia in general cannot evade such responsibility to the democratic public and the citizens of the entire republic, says the statement issued by the six opposition parties in Vojvodina yesterday.

Markovic, Macedonians Discuss 'Disturbed' Ties

LD0510023590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1631 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Skopje, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Extremely complex and disturbed intranational and inter-republican

relations, which are exceptionally unfavorable in some parts of the country, where threats to public peace and order and to the security of citizens are most drastic, are harming the political and security situation, the stability of the constitutional system of the country, and its position in Europe and the world. This was stated in Skopje today during a working meeting of Dr. Vladimir Mitkov, president of the Macedonian Presidency, and members of the Presidency with Federal Executive Committee President Ante Markovic.

The meeting was also attended by Dr. Vulnet Starova, president of the Macedonian Assembly, Gligorie Gogovski, president of the republican Executive Council, and heads of republican organs. [passage omitted]

The leaders also discussed some issues concerning our country's international activity, especially its relations with the neighboring countries and the position of the Macedonian national minority in Bulgaria, Greece, and Albania. They drew attention to the need for more energetic involvement of competent federal organs in resolving the extremely unfavorable position of the Macedonian national minority.

Republics Asked To Cut Spending; Inflation Feared

LD0410085490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1850 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Oct (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Federal Government today warned that inflation could again begin to spiral, seriously endangering the implementation of ove [as received] economic reform in the country.

The federal government called on the Yugoslav republics and provinces to cut general and common spending by 15 to 20 percent, increased spending being one of the basic causes of inflation.

The federal government, as reported, will insist on the implementation of the law which regulates pay increases, and will demand that violations of the respective law be punished.

The federal government said it would intervene by approving new imports of consumer goods, which it said was possible thanks to high foreign-currency reserves of around ten billion dollars.

The government of Prime Minister Ante Markovic called on the Constitutional Court of Yugoslavia to rule on the constitutionality of the accord which enables the republics and provinces, themselves, to fix the percentage for the development of roads which participates in the retail petrol prices.

The federal government requested the intervention of the Constitutional Court because the Republics of Slovenia and Serbia made use of the respective accord during the recent increase of the petrol prices to raise the prices above the level approved by the federal government.

Jovic Urges Economic Adjustments To Aid Farming

LD0410174290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1644 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Novi Sad, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—The government must adjust its economic instruments, especially its import-export and credit and monetary policies, to the demands of modern agriculture, Yugoslav State Presidency President Borisav Jovic said today after visiting the stands at the Novi Sad international agriculture autumn fair.

Stating that Yugoslav agriculture will suffer serious losses due to the drought this year, Jovic said that all segments of Yugoslav society should help it in maintaining its production capabilities.

Jovic, a member of the State Presidency from the Republic of Serbia and the country's president this year, thus replied to farmers' complaints about the unjustified import of food products which the federal government announced and demands that production and exports of food be promoted by government measures.

Prime Minister Ante Markovic's agricultural policy has been strongly criticized primarily by farmers from Yugoslavia's granary of Vojvodina, a province within the Republic of Serbia. Farmers in Vojvodina expressed their dissatisfaction with the government's policy by blocking roads in the province this year.

Tudjman 'More Than Satisfied' With U.S. Trip

AU0410164390 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 3 Oct 90 p 1

[Report on interview with Croatian President Franjo Tudjman by Kresimir Fijacko on the airplane while returning from the U.S.: "The United States Is Against the Policy of Force"]

[Excerpts] Zagreb—On his return from a 12-day visit to the United States and Canada, in the plane between Zurich and Zagreb, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, president of the Republic of Croatia, granted an interview to Kresimir Fijacko of VJESNIK, and HINA [the Croatian Information News Agency].

[Fijacko] Mr. President, at the end of your visit can you say that you are satisfied with what you have achieved?

[Tudjman] Yes, I could say so, even more than satisfied. In the last 12 days we visited eleven towns in the United States and Canada. I myself visited nine of them and everywhere I went it was obvious that Croatian emigres were expressing their unity with the Croatian homeland. One could also see their interest in the democratic transformation of the entire life of Croatia and their

participation in the economic restructuring of Croatia. The way we were received by Croat emigres is unforgettable and exceeded all our expectations.

[Fijacko] In your talks with U.S. and Canadian politicians you were praised for democratic changes and achievements in Croatia. One may say that this is international recognition of Croatia.

[Tudjman] We were pleasantly surprised not only by the interest expressed by U.S. and Canadian politicians in the situation in Croatia and Yugoslavia, but also by their awareness of our situation. We had meetings and talks with leading members of the Canadian Parliament and the U.S. Congress and Senate, and with representatives of the State Department. In the White House I had a meeting with General Scowcroft, the President's national security adviser, and President Bush. Everywhere we went we encountered approval of democratic changes that took place in Croatia and Slovenia, as well as concern that democratic changes have not yet been carried out in the eastern part of Yugoslavia. We also had very important talks with Senators Dole and Mitchell, Congressmen Hamilton and Broomfeld, and other leading senators and congressmen who are in charge of or have influence on U.S. foreign policy. [passage omitted]

[Fijacko] Can one therefore say that your visit has changed U.S. attitudes toward Croatia?

[Tudjman] Yes, one may say that our visit has contributed to the full recognition of democratic changes in Croatia and to raising its standing in that part of the world.

[Fijacko] On Monday [1 October], on the day you left the United States, Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, met with President Bush in New York. What are your comments on this meeting?

[Tudjman] You should really ask this question of the participants in that meeting. However, from what I can conclude from our previous meetings in the United States, including the meeting with President Bush, one could say that the top U.S. officials are interested in democratic changes throughout Yugoslavia based on the well-known principles: respect for human and national rights, pluralist democracy, and a free market. The Bush-Jovic talks also emphasized the need for all problems arising from the social and political crises in Yugoslavia to be resolved in a democratic way. The Americans strongly favor democratic changes and are against the use of force. I can say with pleasure that the Croatian draft of the confederal set up of Yugoslavia is completely acceptable to the United States, and that in our talks the U.S. politicians displayed considerable knowledge of historic events and the causes of all current problems in Yugoslavia. They were also extremely worried about the violation of human and national rights in Kosovo and the stirring up of troubles among the Serbian population in Croatia. [passage omitted]

Democrats Assembly, Bush-Tudjman Meeting Noted

AU0410171490 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 1 Oct 90 p 4

[M. Malesevic report: "Overpowered Nationalist Wing"]

[Excerpts] Belgrade—Rifts and divisions in the Democratic Party have been difficult to hide recently. At the election assembly of this party held in the Sava Center last Saturday, it became clear which "current" is more numerous and more powerful. Even some of the 334 delegates to the meeting, which was attended by some 3,000 people, were surprised by the balance of power and by the names of those backing presidential candidates. After the voting, it was obvious that with his convincing victory Dr. Dragoljub Micunovic (who received 235 votes), reelected president of the party, had defeated the "nationalist wing." His rival Dr. Kosta Cavoski received 77 votes. [passage omitted]

"Hello" in the Hall

The greetings speech by Helen Delich Bentley, member of the U.S. Congress, who is of Serbian origin, was received very favorably. This was the first time for her, a Republican, to address a meeting of democrats. She stressed that she did not know who she would give her political support to in Yugoslavia, but that she would certainly not go for the communists or socialists because "they do not offer freedom."

Official U.S. policy does not agree with separatism in Yugoslavia, with Yugoslavia's disintegration, or confederalism, said the guest from the United States explaining how "the meeting" between President Bush and Franjo Tudjman occurred. Tudjman did not fare all that well in his meeting with members of the commission for the protection of the Helsinki Agreement. When he came to the White House, where he was supposed to meet with the President's national security adviser, and while he was waiting in the hall Bush happened to pass by and because of his habit of greeting everybody, he said hello to Tudjman.

U.S. Attitude Towards Federation, Future Viewed

AU0410154390 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 3 Oct 90 p 5

[Vladimir Drobnjak commentary: "Apparent Disagreements"]

[Text] The United States did not speak its mind directly but said a lot nevertheless—this is the first impression of the meeting between Dr. Borisav Jovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and George Bush and the series of political meetings which Dr. Franjo Tudjman had with the leading people in the administration, including President Bush. On the one hand, in the meeting with Jovic, the United States unambiguously confirmed support for the federal government in Belgrade and the territorial

unity of Yugoslavia, as the still valid framework for its policy in this part of Europe. However, for a comprehensive assessment of the half-hour-long meeting between Jovic and Bush behind closed doors in the New York Waldorf Astoria hotel, one should note the context in which it took place. Particular attention should be paid to the fact that the talks were attended by official Washington's indisputably strongest and most prestigious team—George Bush, Secretary of State James Baker, and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft are the three central names in U.S. foreign policy and have the greatest possible political clout. There have indeed been earlier meetings between the United States and Yugoslavia at such a high level but one can count on the fingers of one hand the occasions when the U.S. President was accompanied by both "his right and left-hand man."

The fact that Yugoslavia is at this moment just a step away from a terrible civil war gives the Jovic-Bush meeting added and strategic importance. However, any analysis would be incomplete without remembering the long talk the Croatian president, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, had with Brent Scowcroft and the brief meeting with George Bush which clearly signified some new slants or even shifts in the view that has so far been held, which is something that earned the Croatian Government valuable prestige points.

Does the Jovic-Bush meeting mean that the claim about the significance of Tudjman's visit to the White House is no longer of prime importance? No, it does not mean that. No one can dispute the fact that Tudjman's meeting with Bush created the opportunity for closer and better U.S.-Yugoslav relations, particularly since the democratic transformation of Croatia was significantly confirmed on the open world stage.

What, then, is the United States now telling Yugoslavia? Dr. Borisav Jovic was the first to inform journalists of the content of the talks. According to him, "the very friendly, sincere, and comprehensive meeting" stressed U.S. support for the "unity of Yugoslavia." The real meaning of the word "unity" was explained later on in talks with Yugoslav correspondents based in the United States by Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, (who accompanied Dr. Jovic together with Dzevad Mujezinovic, Yugoslav ambassador in Washington). The United States firmly supported the territorial integrity of Yugoslavia, as well as all the democratic transformations taking place there at the moment. These are the foundations on which Washington bases its policy toward Yugoslavia. However, while the United States is stressing the importance of preserving the country's territorial integrity, it does not at the same time enter into details of the internal political set-up in Yugoslavia. Moreover, it has been learned from well-informed sources that the United States is stressing that its support for the integrity of the Yugoslav region is not in conflict (but the opposite) with the promotion of real democracy and the quest for consistent respect for human rights. Moreover, George Bush has expressly stressed the importance of the protection of human rights, but Dr. Jovic forgot to inform the correspondents of these details of their talks.

Dr. Jovic said after the meeting that, in commenting on the circumstances in Yugoslavia, Bush had "not mentioned anyone specifically." It has been learned that the U.S. President stated that certain visits by republican representatives to Congress and the State Department, regardless of their scope and contents, does not bring into question strategic U.S. support for the economic reforms of the federal government and the promotion of the principle of a market economy. Support for a territorially complete Yugoslavia (propped up by the federal government's reforms) is no longer in question. However, there is a difference between territorial and political unity, so it should be known that it has been heard among well-informed sources that Washington has nothing against a confederal structure in Yugoslavia. Since Washington thinks that this is Yugoslavia's internal issue, no one in the White House and the State Department has openly stated this yet.

Will Yugoslavia know and be able to answer this question by itself or will it soon nevertheless be necessary for the United States to clearly state its opinion? It can be concluded that until the United States expresses its vision of the future of Yugoslavia, there is room for everyone in Yugoslavia to interpret U.S. policy in the Balkans in their own way and according to their own interests, and act accordingly on the domestic scene.

Protest Sent to Iraq Over Kuwait Embassy Cutoffs

LD0410183690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1518 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia has sent an official protest to Iraq over the cutting off the supply of water and electricity in the Yugoslav Embassy in Kuwait, Foreign Secretariat spokesman Ivo Vajgl told a regular press conference here today.

Vajgl set out that, if the situation remained unchanged, Yugoslavia would temporarily close its embassy in Kuwait in the interest of health and safety of the embassy staff.

He said it would be a purely "technical move" because "Yugoslavia recognizes the legal Kuwaiti Goverment with which it maintains regular contacts through other Yugoslav diplomatic missions."

Loncar Meets With Gulf Counterparts in New York

LD0410102790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0057 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Budimir Loncar, Yugoslavia's foreign minsiter, and his counterparts in the group of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members of which are Arab petroleum-exporting countries in the Gulf, agreed here today on supporting the U.N.

Security Council resolutions as the only way for finding out a political settlement of the Gulf crisis.

Loncar, the chief Yugoslav delegate to the current U.N. General Assembly session, today set out data for the ministers of the Gulf countries about serious consequences being felt by Yugoslavia's national economy by reason of its break of economic relations with Iraq through its acceptance of the U.N. Security Council resolution on economic sanctions against Iraq.

Loncar was given assurances of the GCC group going to keep them in mind and search for ways to have such consequences mitigated as much as possible.

Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and threats to peace in the Gulf also were the chief topic of Loncar's talk today with Crown Prince Faysal, foreign minister of Saudi Arabia.

Bilateral relations were the main subject of talks Loncar also had individually with the foreign ministers of Libya (al-Talhi), Lebanon (al-Huss), Morocco (Filali), Pakistan (Yaqub Khan) and Colombia (Haramilla) [name as received].

With partners from the non-aligned world, jointly asserted was the need for adapting the movement to newly-changed relations in the world through the existing practice of coming to agreement.

Suggests Nonaligned Role in Crisis

LD0410181190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1539 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar today proposed that the non-aligned ministerial meeting in New York entrust to Yugoslavia, as the movement's chairing country, the forming of a group which will work on seeking out a political solution to the crisis in the Gulf.

Speaking at the meeting and on other unresolved crisis spots, Loncar noted that the Cyprus crisis, Middle East and Palestinian problem remain in particular on the conscience of mankind as well as the non-aligned countries.

Loncar included the initiative for holding a North-South summit among the Non-aligned Movement's priority actions which should show that the Non-aligned Movement remains indispensable even in altered international relations.

The Non-aligned Movement at the moment is facing a difficult test to show whether it is capable of executing its useful and, as all are increasingly avowing, its peacemaking function in the processes which have in a whirlwind taken grip of the world political scene, Loncar assessed.

The Yugoslav foreign secretary gave the United Nations its due credit, pointing out that it has a chance to fulfill the task for which its visionary founders intended it to accomplish—to be a true organization of mankind which is capable of preserving faith in the basic human rights, man's dignity and equal rights to all nations, great and small.

Spokesman Says Yugoslav-Saudi Relations Possible

LD0410174890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1547 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Conditions for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Yugoslavia and Saudi Arabia exist, Yugoslav Foreign Secretariat spokesman Ivo Vajgl told a news conference here today.

Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar, who is in New York attending the UN General Assembly session, yesterday met with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal who invited him to officially visit Riyadh soon.

Foreign Secretariat Welcomes German Unity

LD0410181890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1527 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia joins in the general satisfaction about the unification of the two German states which is a confirmation and an expression of a new atmosphere in relations among European countries, Yugoslav Foreign Secretariat spokesman Ivo Vajgl told a regular news conference here today.

Setting out the stand of the federal government, Vajgl said that Yugoslavia's relations with the new strong Germany would be more than just a sum of its relations with the two Germanys.

Vajgl also said that, under an agreement with the West German Government, the Yugoslav Embassy in Berlin, former East Germany, would be a department of the Yugoslav Embassy in Bonn.

Vajgl said that the staff of the former embassy and Yugoslav military mission in the quadripartite allied forces in Berlin would also work in the Berlin department and would be on the diplomtic list of the embassy in Bonn.

Protest Issued to Bulgaria on Macedonia Comments

LD0410175290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1544 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Belgrade, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—Assistant to the Yugoslav foreign Secretary Dusko Rodic sent a protest to the Bulgarian ambassador in Belgrade concerning a statement by a Bulgarian official in which he negated, that is, laid claims on the Macedonian nation, Yugoslav Foreign Secretariat spokesman Ivo Vajgl told a regular news conference here today.

The protest points out that Yugoslav regards it intolerable that unacceptable stands of certain Bulgarian parties about the Macedonian nation are now expressed by official representatives of Bulgaria.

Slovenia's Kucan Meets With EC Envoys

LD0510053890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2112 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 4 Oct (TANJUG)—President of the Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia Milan Kucan in Belgrade today held three-hour informal talks with the ambassadors of the E.C. countries accredited to Yugoslavia. The meeting, initiated by the ambassadors last June, focused on the latest events in Slovenia and Yugoslavia.

Kucan told a news conference in Ljubljana tonight that he familiarized the ambassadors with: Slovenia's view on the Yugoslav State Presidency's proposed solving of the "Yugoslav question," Slovenia's and Croatia's stands towards a confederation, and Slovenia's economic situation and its attitude towards Prime Minister Ante Markovic's program.

In Milan Kucan's words, it showed up at the talks that political democracy, democratic elections, respect of human rights, and market economy accounted for Slovenia's and Yugoslavia's ticket for entering any kind of integration links to the European Community. Yugoslavia expects to develop itself democratically and to resolve its crisis in a democratic way. Concern was not concealed [word indistinct] Yugoslavia as a whole to remain a factor in this part of Europe, but, at the same time, any other soulution democratically voted for by the Yugoslav nations would be accepted as a [word indistinct]—Milan Kucan told his news conference.